Canons

OF THE UNITED EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

AS ADOPTED IN GENERAL CONVENTION, 1992, rev. 2023

I.

DEFINITIONS.

Canon 1. Definitions.

1. Whenever used in these Canons, unless otherwise clearly indicated in the context, the following terms shall have only the meanings as defined in this Canon 1.

2. "Chapel" means a local society of persons organized for the purpose of maintaining religious worship of God in accordance with the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, which society has been established as a Chapel by a Religious Society in accordance with Canon 13.

3. "Clergyman" means a Bishop, Priest, or Deacon.

4. "Congregation" means Parish, Mission, or Chapel.

5. "Ecclesiastical Authority" means the Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop, Standing Committee, or Council of Advice authorized or requested to act in the stead of the Bishop Ordinary pursuant to the provisions of Canon 12, Sec. 3; Canon 41, Sec. 7; Canon 45, Sec. 5 (a); Canon 45, Sec. 5 (b); or Canon 45, Sec. 10.

6. "Mission" means a local society of persons organized for the purpose of maintaining public religious worship of God in accordance with the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, which society has not met the requirements for status as a Parish but has been accepted as a Mission in accordance with Canon 13.

7. "Parish" means a local society of persons organized for the purpose of maintaining public religious worship of God in accordance with the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, which society has a defined presence in the community, operates under the rule of a Vestry and a resident Incumbent, does not receive regular financial support from the National Church, a Diocese, or a Missionary District, and has been accepted as a Parish in accordance with Canon 13. Once a society has been accepted as a Parish in accordance with Canon 13, its status shall not be reduced to that of a Mission without the consent of its Vestry.

8. "Presbyter" means Priest.

9. "Religious Society" means a society of persons organized for the purpose of maintaining religious worship of God in accordance with the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, which society has been officially recognized in accordance with canon 13.

II.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

CANON 2 - Of the General Convention.

Sec. 1 – Time of Meeting and Membership

a. The General Convention shall meet on the first Thursday of October every third year commencing in the year 2026 unless the House of Bishops make other provision.

b. The General Convention shall consist of three orders – bishops, clergy, and laity. When three or more bishops are present, they shall sit as the House of Bishops and constitute the Upper House of Convention, deliberating with the House of Delegates, but voting separately; except that when there are less than three bishops present, they shall sit and vote with the clergy, and the Clergy shall constitute the Upper House.

c. Until such time as there shall be four dioceses of this Church, the membership of the General Synod shall consist of (1)

   All bishops in good standing in this Church
   All clergymen in good standing in this Church
   An elected delegate for each parish or mission, plus one additional delegate for every fifty (50) communicants up to a maximum of four (4).

   Thereafter it shall consist of (2)

   All bishops in good standing in this Church
   Four elected clerical delegates from each diocese and missionary district
   Four elected lay delegates from each diocese and missionary district

   Overseas churches shall be represented in accordance with the Constitution of this Church.

d. Before taking their seat in the House of Deputies, delegates shall sign the following declaration and submit it to the credentialling committee:

   "I, A. B., am a communicant member of this Church and believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to contain all doctrine necessary to salvation, and assent to the doctrine, disciple, and worship of this Church as contained in the Articles of Religion, the Constitution and Canons, and Book of Common Prayer."

e. The Deputies elected for one General Convention shall serve until next.

f. The Presiding Bishop shall serve as President of the General Convention unless he is absent, indisposed, or chooses give up the chair in order to participate in the debate, in which eventuality, the President of the House of Deputies shall preside over the General Convention.

Sec. 2 (a). At the time and place appointed for the meeting of the General Convention, the Secretary of the House of Deputies, or, in his absence a Secretary pro tempore appointed by the President of the House, or if there be none, such a secretary pro tempore appointed by the National Council, shall call to order the members present, and the names of those whose testimonials, in due form, shall be presented to him, which record shall be prima facie evidence that the persons whose names are therein recorded are entitled to seats. If there be a quorum present, according to the record, the Secretary shall so declare, and the House of Deputies shall

proceed to organize by the election by ballot of a President from the members of the House of Clergy, and of a Secretary; and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to an election. The President, so elected, shall continue in office until the next meeting of the General Convention. As soon as a President and Secretary have been elected a committee shall be appointed to wait upon the House of Bishops and inform them of the organization of the House of Deputies, and of its readiness to proceed to business.

(b). When members of the House of Deputies are chosen in accordance with the second paragraph of Article I., Section 4, of the Constitution, and in order to aid the Secretary in preparing the record specified in Clause (a), it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese and of every Missionary District to forward to him, as soon as may be practicable, a copy of the latest Journal of the Diocesan or Missionary District Synod.

(c). The Secretary shall keep full minutes of the proceedings of the House; record them, with all reports, in a book provided for that purpose; preserve the Journals and Records of the House; deliver them to the Registrar, as hereinafter provided, and perform such other duties as may be directed by the House. He may, with the approval of the House, appoint Assistant Secretaries, and the Secretary and Assistant Secretaries shall continue in office until the organization of the next General Convention, and until their successors be chosen.

(d). It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the House of Deputies, whenever any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer or of the Constitution is proposed, or any other subject submitted to the consideration of the several Diocesan Conventions, to give notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Church in every Diocese and Missionary District, as well as to the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary District, and written evidence that the foregoing requirement has been complied with shall be presented by him to the General Convention at its next session. He shall notify each Secretary that it is his duty to make known such proposed alterations of the Book of Common Prayer, and of the Constitution, and such other subjects, to the Synod of his Diocese or Missionary District at its next meeting, and to certify to the Secretary of the General Synod that such action has been taken by him.

(e). The Secretary of the House of Deputies and the Treasurer of the General Convention shall be entitled to seats upon the floor of the House, and, with the consent of the President, they may speak on the subjects of their respective offices.

(f). At the meetings of the House of Deputies the Rules and Orders of the previous meeting shall be in force until they are amended or repealed by the House.

(g). In case of the resignation, death, or total disability of the President during the recess of the General Convention, the Secretary of the General Convention shall perform such ad interim duties as may appertain to the office of President until the next meeting of the General Convention or until such disability is removed.

(h). If during recess a vacancy shall occur in the office of Secretary of the House of Deputies, the duties thereof shall devolve upon the Assistant Secretary, or, if there be none such, upon a Secretary pro tempore appointed by the Presiding Bishop, or if that office be also vacant, by the National Council.

Sec. 3 (a). The right of calling special meetings of the General Convention shall be vested in the

House of Bishops. The Presiding Bishop shall issue the summons for such meetings, designating the time and place thereof, with the consent, or on the requisition, of the majority of the House of Bishops, expressed to him in writing.

(b). The Deputies elected to the preceding General Convention shall be the Deputies at such special meetings of the General Convention, except in those cases in which other Deputies shall have been duly chosen in the meantime, and then such other Deputies shall represent in the special meeting of the General Convention the Church of the Diocese or Missionary District in which they have been chosen.

(c). Any vacancy in the representation of any Diocese caused by the death, absence, or inability of any Deputy, shall be supplied either temporarily or permanently in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Diocese or Missionary District, or, in the absence of any such provision, by appointment by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District. During such periods, as shall be stated in the certificate issued to him by the appointing power, the Provisional Deputy so appointed shall possess and shall be entitled to exercise the power and authority of the Deputy in place of whom he shall have been designated.

Sec. 4 (a). The House of Deputies, upon the nomination of the House of Bishops, shall elect a Presbyter, to be known as the Registrar of the General Convention, whose duty it shall be to receive all Journals, files, papers, reports and other documents or articles that are, or shall become, the property of either House of the General Convention; to arrange, label, index, and put them in order, and to provide for the safe keeping of the same in some fire-proof, accessible place of deposit, and to hold the same under such regulations as the General Convention may, from time to time, provide.

(b). It shall also be the duty of the said Registrar to procure a suitable book, and to enter therein the record of the ordinations and consecrations of all the Bishops of this Church, designating accurately the time and place of the same, with the names of the consecrating Bishops, and of others present and assisting; to have the same authenticated in the fullest manner practicable; and to take care for the similar record and authentication of all future ordinations and consecrations of Bishops in this Church. Due notice of the time and place of such ordinations and consecrations shall be given by the Presiding Bishop to the Registrar; and thereupon it shall be his duty to attend such ordinations and consecrations, either in person or by deputy.

(c). He shall prepare, in such form as the House of Bishops shall prescribe, the Letters of Ordination and Consecration in duplicate; and he shall have the same immediately signed and sealed by the ordaining and consecrating Bishops, and by such other Bishops assisting as may be practicable; and he shall deliver to the newly consecrated Bishop one of the said Letters, and shall carefully file the other among the papers in his custody, and make a minute thereof in his book of record.

(d). The Registrar shall also be Historiographer, unless in any case the House of Bishops shall make a separate nomination; and in this event the House of Deputies shall confirm the nomination.

(e). The necessary expenses incurred under this Section shall be paid by the Treasurer of the General Convention.

(f). It shall be the duty of the Secretary of General Convention, within six months after the

adjournment of the General Convention, to deliver to the Registrar the Manuscript minutes of the proceeding of both Houses, together with the Journals, files, papers, reports, and all other documents of either House. The manuscript minutes of both Houses shall remain filed until after the adjournment of the Second Convention following that at which such minutes shall have been taken; Provided, however, that any part of such minutes, for any reason unpublished in the Journal, shall remain filed in the Archives. The Secretary of the General Convention shall also deliver to the Registrar, when not otherwise expressly directed, all the Journals, files, papers, reports, and other documents specified in Canon 7. The Secretaries shall require the Registrar to give them receipts for the Journals and other papers delivered to him.

(g). In the case of a vacancy in the office of Registrar, the Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Registrar, who shall hold office until the next General Convention.

Sec. 5 (a). The House of Deputies, upon nomination of the House of Bishops, shall elect a Recorder (who may be a natural person or an incorporated organization of this Church), whose duty it shall be to continue the List of Ordinations and to keep a list of the Clergymen in regular standing.

(b). It shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese and Missionary District, to forward to the Recorder on or before the first day of March in each and every year a report certifying the following information as of the thirty-first day of December in the preceding year :

(1) the names of the Clergymen canonically resident therein with their several charges;

(2) the names of the Clergymen licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to officiate, but not yet transferred;

(3) the names of all persons connected with the Diocese or District who have been ordered Deacons or Priests during the preceding twelve months, with the date and place of ordination and the name of the Bishop ordaining;

(4) the names of the Clergymen of the Diocese or District who have died during the preceding twelve months, with the date and place of death;

(5) the names of the Clergymen who have been received during the preceding twelve months, with the date of their reception and the name of the Diocese or District from which received, and, in the case of Clergymen not received from a Diocese or District of this Church, the date and place of ordination and the name of the Bishop ordaining;

(6) the names of the Clergymen who have been transferred during the preceding twelve months, with the dates of the Letters Dimissory and of their acceptance, and the name of the Diocese or District to which transferred;

(7) the names of the Clergymen who have been suspended during the preceding twelve months, with the date and ground of suspension;

(8) the names of the Clergymen who have been deprived or deposed during the preceding twelve months, with the date, place, and ground of deprivation or deposition;

(9) the names of the Clergymen who have been restored during the preceding twelve months, with the date;

(10) the names of Deaconesses canonically resident therein.

(c). It shall be the duty of the Recorder to furnish, upon proper authority and at the expense of the applicant, such information as may be in the possession of the Recorder based upon the reports required under Clause (b) hereof, but in no case, shall the Recorder publish or furnish for publication the grounds of any suspension, deprivation, or deposition.

(d). The Recorder shall prepare and present to each session of the General Convention a list of all Clergymen ordained, received, suspended, deprived, deposed, or restored, and of all Bishops consecrated, and of all Clergymen who have died, such list to cover the period from the last preceding similar report of the Recorder through the thirty-first day of December immediately preceding each session of the General Convention.

(e). The necessary expenses incurred under this Section by the Recorder, shall be paid by the Treasurer of the General Convention.

(f). In case of a vacancy in the office of Recorder, the Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Recorder, who shall hold office until the next General Convention.

Sec. 6 (a). At every triennial meeting of the General Convention a Treasurer shall be elected by concurrent action of the two Houses and shall remain in office until a successor shall be elected. It shall be his duty to receive and disburse all moneys collected under the authority of the Convention, and of which the collection and disbursement shall not otherwise be prescribed; and, with the advice and approval of the Presiding Bishop and the Treasurer of the National Council, to invest, from time to time, such surplus funds as he may have on hand. His account shall be rendered triennially to the Convention and shall be audited by a committee acting under its authority.

(b). In case of a vacancy, by death, resignation, or otherwise, in the office of Treasurer of the General Convention, the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies shall appoint a Treasurer, who shall hold office until a successor is elected. In case of temporary inability of the Treasurer to act, from illness or other cause, the same officials shall appoint an Acting Treasurer who shall perform all duties of the Treasurer until the Treasurer is able to resume them.

Sec. 7. The Treasurer of the General Convention shall have authority to borrow, in behalf and in the name of the General Convention, with the approval of the Presiding Bishop, such a sum, not exceeding one thousand dollars per annum, as in his judgment may be necessary to help defray the expenses of the General Convention; Provided, that the total amount of the indebtedness authorized in this Section shall at no time exceed one thousand dollars.

Sec. 8. The Treasurer shall submit to the General Convention at each regular meeting thereof a detailed budget for which he proposes to request appropriations for the ensuing triennium. He shall have power to expend all sums of money covered by this budget, subject to such provisions of the Canons as shall be applicable.

Sec. 9. The Treasurer may appoint, subject to the approval of the Presiding Bishop, an Assistant Treasurer, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Treasurer and shall perform such duties as shall be assigned to him by the Treasurer.

CANON 3 - Of the Presiding Bishop.

Sec. 1. The Presiding Bishop, when elected according to the provisions of Article I., Section 3, of the Constitution, shall hold office until the fifteenth day of November succeeding the General Convention which follows his attainment of the age of seventy-two years, or which occurs in the calendar year in which he attains that age. Except that when a Presiding Bishop has been elected by the House of Bishops to fill a vacancy, as provided for in the second paragraph of Article I., Section 3, of the Constitution, the Presiding Bishop elected by the next General Convention shall take office immediately.

Sec. 2. The Presiding Bishop shall preside over joint sessions of the General Convention, meetings of the House of Bishops, and shall take order for the consecration of Bishops, when duly elected. He shall also perform all other duties prescribed for him by other Canons of the General Convention.

Sec. 3. If there be no Presiding Bishop, or if the Presiding Bishop is under disability or is for any reason unable to act, the Bishop who, according to the Rules of the House of Bishops, becomes its Presiding Officer, or, if there be no such Rules, the Bishop having jurisdiction in North America who is senior in order of Consecration, shall, by and with the advice and consent of the National Council, discharge the duties assigned to the Presiding Bishop for all the purposes of these Canons, except the Canon entitled, "Of the National Council."

Sec. 4. The Presiding Bishop may be known by the title 'Archbishop of the United Episcopal Church of North America.'

CANON 4 - Of the Chancellor.

Sec. 1. The Presiding Bishop may, by and with the advice and consent of the National Council, appoint a person learned in the law and a communicant of this Church, Chancellor of the Church.

Sec. 2. The Chancellor shall advise the General Convention, the Presiding Bishop, the other Bishops, and the National Council regarding any questions of law which may arise in the administration of the Constitution, Canons, and affairs of the Church at the national level, and shall perform such other duties as the General Convention, the Presiding Bishop, the National Council, or these Canons may assign or require.

Sec. 3. The Chancellor shall be entitled to a seat upon the floor of the House of Deputies, and, with the consent of the President, may speak to questions of law and to other subjects within the Chancellor's assigned or required duties.

Sec. 4. The Chancellor shall continue in office until death, resignation, or, by and with the advice and consent of the National Council, revocation of appointment by the Presiding Bishop.

CANON 5 - Of The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society.

The General Convention may establish The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Episcopal Church of North America for the purpose of organizing and funding the expansion work of the Church.

CANON 6 - Of the National Council.

Sec. 1 (a). The Presiding Bishop and the National Council as hereinafter constituted shall have charge of the unification, development and prosecution of the policies approved by the General Convention, and of the Missionary, Educational, and Social Work of the Church at the national level, of which work the Presiding Bishop shall be the executive head.

(b). The officers of the National Council shall be a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, with such duties as the Council, pursuant to this Canon, from time to time, may prescribe.

Sec. 2 (a). The National Council, herein referred to as the Council, shall be composed of the Presiding Bishop; eleven members elected by the General Convention at each triennial meeting thereof, of whom two shall be Bishops, three shall be Presbyters, and six shall be Laymen; two members of the Women's Auxiliary elected by it, by and with the advice and consent of the General Convention; and the Deans of the Theological Seminaries, which Seminaries, by and with the advice and consent of both the House of Bishops and the National Council, have been accepted as Theological Seminaries within the Church or any of its constituent jurisdictions. Of the members to be elected by the General Convention, the Bishops shall be elected by the House of Bishops subject to confirmation by the House of Deputies, and the Presbyters and Laymen shall be elected by the House of Deputies subject to confirmation by the House of Bishops.

(b). The terms of office of the members of the Council elected by the General Convention shall be three years and the terms of office of the members of the Council elected by the Women's Auxiliary shall be three years. The terms of office of all members elected as above provided shall commence immediately upon their election. Members shall remain in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Should any vacancy occur in the Council through the death or resignation of a member elected by the General Convention or through the change in status of any such member by consecration or ordination, the Council shall fill such vacancy by the election of a suitable person to serve until his successor is elected by the General Convention.

Should any vacancy occur in the Council through the death or resignation of a member elected from the Women's Auxiliary to the National Council, the Executive Board of the Women's Auxiliary shall nominate a suitable person to serve the portion of the term which will remain unexpired.

(c). The Council shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by Canon, and such further powers as may be designated by the General Convention, and between sessions of the General Convention may initiate and develop such new work as it may deem necessary. It may, subject to the provision of this Canon, enact By-laws for its own government and the government of its several departments.

Sec. 3. The Presiding Bishop shall be the President of the Council. The Council shall elect from its members the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The agents and employees of the Council shall be such and shall perform such duties as the Presiding Bishop and the Council may from time to time designate.

Sec. 4 (a). The Council shall meet at such place, and at such stated times, at least once each year, as it shall appoint and at such other times as it may be convened. Prior to adjournment of any regularly scheduled meeting, the Council shall appoint the time and place of the next regularly scheduled meeting. Special meetings of the Council shall be convened at the request of the President, or on the written request of any eight members thereof made to the President.

(b). Eight members of the Council shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Council.

Sec. 5 The salaries of all agents and employees of the Council shall be fixed by the Council and paid by the Treasurer.

Sec. 6 (a). The Council shall submit to the General Convention at each regular session thereof a program for the triennium, including a detailed budget of that part of the program for which it proposes to make appropriation for the ensuing year, and estimated budgets for the two succeeding years.

(b). There shall be joint sessions of the two Houses for the presentation of such program; and thereafter consideration shall be given, and appropriate action taken thereon by the General Convention. The Council shall have the power to expend all sums of money covered by the budget and estimated budgets approved by the Convention, subject to such restrictions as may be imposed by the General Convention. It shall also have power to undertake such other work provided for in the program approved by the General Convention, or other work under the jurisdiction of the Council, the need for which may have arisen after the action of the General Convention, as in the judgment of the Council its income will warrant.

(c). The National Council shall approve a standard form requiring information as to all institutions in any way connected with the Church for use in Dioceses, Missionary Districts, and in Parishes, Missions, and Religious Communities in Other Places organized under Canon 17, for the purpose of showing receipts and the distribution of receipts for all purposes. The Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese and Missionary District shall annually report to the National Council all receipts and the distribution of such receipts on the standard form and shall report the state of the Church in its jurisdiction at the date of such report.

Sec. 7. The Ecclesiastical Authority of a Diocese or Missionary District, or of Parishes, Missions, and Religious Communities organized under Canon 17, receiving aid from the Council shall report at the close of each fiscal year to the Council giving detailed account of the work in its jurisdiction supported in whole or in part by the Council.

Sec. 8. The Council, as soon as practicable after the close of each fiscal year, shall make and publish a full report of its work to the Church. Such report shall contain an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements and of all trust funds and property in its possession or under its control. The Council shall make a like report including a detailed schedule of the salaries paid to all agents and principal employees, to each General Convention.

CANON 7 - Of the Mode of Securing an Accurate View of the State of this Church.

Sec. 1. A report of every Parish, Mission, and Religious Community of this Church shall be

prepared annually for the year ending December 31st preceding, upon the blank form prepared by the National Council, and shall be sent not later than February 1st to the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof. In every Parish, the preparation and delivery of this report shall be the joint duty of the Rector and Vestry, and in every Mission the joint duty of the Clergyman in charge and the Vestry Committee, and in every Religious Community the duty of the Chief Officer thereof. This report shall include the following information: (1) the number of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials during the year; the total number of baptized persons and communicants in good standing at the time of the report; and for all purposes the number of members of the Church shall be deemed to be the number of baptized persons; (2) a summary of all receipts and expenditures, from whatever source derived, and for whatever purpose used. The foregoing reporting requirements are for informational purposes only, and they shall not constitute, nor shall they be construed as constituting, any basis for interfering in any way with the rights of ownership of property, be the same real or personal, of the Parishes, Missions, and Religious Communities. And every Clergyman not in charge of any Congregation shall also report his services, and if there have been none, the causes or reasons which have prevented the same. And these reports, or such parts of them as the Ecclesiastical Authority may deem proper, shall be entered in the Journal of the Convention of the Diocese or of the Convocation of the Missionary District.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary District to forward to the Secretary of the House of Deputies immediately upon publication the Journals of the Convention of the Diocese or Convocation of the Missionary District, together with Episcopal charges, statements and such other papers as may show the State of the Church in his Diocese or Missionary District.

CANON 8 - Of Business Methods in National Church Affairs.

Sec. 1. In all business matters under the direction of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies of the General Convention, the following standard business methods shall be observed:

(1). Trust and permanent funds and all securities of whatsoever kind shall be deposited with a Federally Insured Federal or State Bank, or with some other agency approved in writing by the National Council, under either a deed of trust or an agency agreement, providing for at least two signatures on any order of withdrawal of such funds or securities.

But this paragraph shall not apply to funds and securities refused by the depositories named as being too small for acceptance. Such small funds and securities shall be under the care of the persons or corporations properly responsible for them.

(2). Records shall be made and kept of all trust and permanent funds showing at least the following:

(a) Source and date.

(b) Terms governing the use of principal and income.

(c) To whom and how often reports of condition are to be made.

(d) How the funds are invested.

(3). Books of account shall be so kept as to provide the basis for satisfactory accounting.

(4). All accounts shall be audited annually by a Certified or Independent Public Accountant, or by such an

accounting agency as shall be permitted by the National Council.

(5). All Buildings and their contents shall be kept adequately insured.

(6). The fiscal year shall begin January 1.

(7). No Trustee or other body, authorized by Civil or Canon law to hold, manage, or administer real property for any National Church Board or Institution shall encumber or alienate the same or any part thereof (save for the refinancing of an existing loan) without approval of the National Council.

CANON 9 - Of The Church Pension Fund.

The General Convention may establish The Church Pension Fund for the purpose of administering the clergy pension system of the Church.

CANON 10 - Of Provinces.

The General Convention may establish Provinces in accordance with Article VII of the Constitution.

CANON 11 - Of New Dioceses.

Sec. 1. Whenever a new Diocese shall be formed within the limits of any Diocese, or by the junction of two or more Dioceses, or parts of Dioceses, or in a Missionary District, and such action shall have been ratified by the General Convention, the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese or Missionary District within the limits of which a Diocese is formed, or in case of the junction of two or more Dioceses or Missionary Districts, or parts of Dioceses or Missionary Districts, the Bishop Ordinary senior by consecration, shall thereupon call the primary Convention of the new Diocese, for the purpose of enabling to organize, and shall fix the time and place of holding the same, such place being within the territorial limits of the new Diocese.

Sec. 2. In case there should be no Bishop who can call such Primary Convention, pursuant to the foregoing provision, then the duty of calling such Convention for the purpose of organizing and of fixing the time and place of its meeting, shall be vested in the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District within the limits of which the new one is erected, or in the Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the oldest of the Dioceses or

Missionary Districts by the junction of which, or of parts of which, the new Diocese may be formed. And such Standing Committee, or Council of Advice, shall make the call immediately after ratification of the General Convention.

Sec. 3. Whenever one Diocese is about to be divided into two Dioceses, the Convention of such

Diocese shall declare which portion thereof is to be the new Diocese and shall make the same known to the General Convention before the ratification of such division.

Sec. 4. Whenever a new Diocese shall have organized in Primary Convention in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and Canons in such case made and provided, and in the manner prescribed in the previous Sections of this Canon, and shall have chosen a name and acceded to the Constitution of the General Convention in accordance with Article V., Section 1 of the Constitution, and shall have laid before the General Convention certified copies of the Constitution adopted at its Primary Convention, and the proceedings preparatory to the formation of the proposed new Diocese, such new Diocese shall thereupon be admitted into union with the General Convention.

Sec. 5. The Convocation of a Missionary District at the time of its organization as a Diocese, shall be entitled to elect Deputies to the succeeding General Convention, and also to elect a Bishop Ordinary, if the Missionary Bishop Ordinary in charge of such District shall elect not to become the Bishop Ordinary of said Diocese.

Sec. 6 (a). When a Diocese, and another Diocese which has been formed either by division therefrom or by erection into a Diocese from a Missionary District formed by division therefrom, shall desire to be reunited into one Diocese, the proposed reunion must be initiated by a mutual agreement between the Conventions of the two Dioceses, consented to by the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese. If the said agreement is made and the consents given more than three months before the next meeting of the General Convention, the fact of the agreement and consents shall be certified by the Ecclesiastical Authority and the Secretary of the Convention of each Diocese to all the Bishops of the Church having jurisdiction in North America, and to the Standing Committees of all the Dioceses; and when the consents of a majority of such Bishops and of a majority of the Standing Committees to the proposed reunion shall have been received, the facts shall be similarly certified to the Secretary of the House of Deputies of the General Convention, and thereupon the reunion shall be considered complete. But if the agreement is made and the consents given within three months of the next meeting of the General Convention, the facts shall be certified instead to the Secretary of the House of Deputies, who shall lay them before the two Houses; and the reunion shall be deemed to be complete when it shall have been sanctioned by a majority vote in the House of Bishops, and in the House of Clerical and Lay deputies voting by orders.

(b). The Bishop Ordinary of the parent Diocese shall be the bishop, and the Bishop Ordinary of the junior Diocese shall be the Bishop Coadjutor, of the reunited Diocese; but if there be a vacancy in the Episcopate of either Diocese, the Bishop Ordinary of the other Diocese shall be the Bishop Ordinary, and the Bishop Coadjutor if there be one shall be the Bishop Coadjutor, of the reunited Diocese.

(c). When the reunion of the two Dioceses shall have been completed, the facts shall be certified to the Presiding Bishop and to the Secretary of the House of Deputies. Thereupon the Presiding Bishop shall notify the Secretary of the House of Bishops of any alteration in the status or style of the Bishop or Bishops concerned, and the Secretary of the House of Deputies shall strike the name of the junior Diocese from the roll of Dioceses in union with the General Convention.

CANON 12 - Of Standing Committees.

Sec. 1. In every Diocese, the Standing Committee shall elect from their own body a President and a Secretary They may meet in conformity with their own rules from time to time and shall keep a record of their proceedings; and the President may summon a special meeting whenever he may deem it necessary. They shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop Ordinary whenever he shall desire their advice; and they may meet of their own accord and agreeably to their own rules when they may be disposed to advise the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 2. In all cases in which a Canon of the General Convention directs a duty to be performed, or a power to be exercised, by a Standing Committee, or by the Clerical members thereof, a majority of said members, the whole having been duly cited to meet, shall be a quorum; and a majority of the quorum so convened shall be competent to act, unless the contrary is expressly required by the Canon.

Sec. 3. When it is certified to the Presiding Bishop by at least three reputable physicians who shall have examined the case, that the Bishop Ordinary of any Diocese is incapable of authorizing the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, or a Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese, if there be one, or the Standing Committee, to act as the Ecclesiastical Authority, then upon the advice of two Bishops of neighboring Dioceses to be selected by the Presiding Bishop, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, or a Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese, if there be one, and if the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese so provide, or the Standing Committee, shall be declared by the Presiding Bishop to be the Ecclesiastical Authority for all purposes set forth in these Canons, and shall retain such authority until such time as, acting upon a like certificate, the Presiding Bishop shall declare the said Bishop Ordinary competent to perform his official duties.

CANON 13 - Of Congregations and Religious Societies.

Sec. 1. Each Congregation within this Church shall be organized as a Parish, Mission, or Chapel.

Sec. 2. Every Congregation and Religious Society of this Church shall belong to the Church in the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which its place of worship is situated; and no Clergyman having a Congregation in more than one jurisdiction shall have a vote in the Convention or Convocation of any jurisdiction other than that in which he has canonical residence.

Sec. 3. (a). The qualifications, formation, establishment, admission, official recognition, and suspension of, and the dissolution connection with, Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies within the territorial limits of Dioceses and Missionary Districts are left to the action of the several Diocesan Conventions and Missionary District Convocations

(b). Until a Canon or other regulation of a Diocesan Convention or Missionary District shall have been adopted, the qualifications, formation, establishment, admission, official recognition, and suspension of, and the dissolution of connection with, Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies shall be vested in the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice thereof.

Sec. 4. The Ecclesiastical Authority shall appoint a Clergyman in charge of a Mission. The

Clergyman in charge shall hold office at the pleasure of the Ecclesiastical Authority, who shall define his duties and powers.

Sec. 5. One or more Chapels shall be established by each Religious Society officially recognized by this Church.

Sec. 6. This Canon shall not affect the legal rights of property of any Parish, Mission, or Religious Society.

CANON 14 - Of Parish Vestries.

Sec. 1. In every Parish of this Church the number, mode of election, and term of office of Wardens and Vestrymen shall be such as the law of the Church in the place where the Parish is situated may permit or require, and the Wardens and Vestrymen elected under such law shall hold office until their successors are elected and have qualified.

Sec. 2. Except as provided by the law of the State or of the Church in the place where the Parish is situated, the Vestry shall be agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property and the relations of the Parish to its Clergy.

Sec. 3. Unless it conflicts with the law as aforesaid, the Rector, when present, shall preside in all the meetings of the Vestry.

Sec. 4 – Unless otherwise determined by State Law, amendments to the Bylaws of any Parish shall be approved by the Annual Parish Meeting, or by a specially convened Congregational Meeting.

CANON 15 - Of Mission Vestry Committees.

Sec. 1. The Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction in the place where a Mission is located shall appoint a Vestry Committee for the Mission. The members of the Vestry Committee shall hold office at the pleasure of the Ecclesiastical Authority, which shall define their number, duties, and powers not inconsistent with these Canons.

Sec. 2. The Clergyman-in-charge of a Mission, when present, shall preside in all the meetings of the Vestry Committee.

CANON 16 - Of Clergy and Congregations Seeking Affiliation with the Church

Sec. 1. Whenever a congregation of Christian People holding the Christian Faith as set forth in the Catholic Creeds, recognizing the Scriptures as containing all things necessary to salvation, and declaring their assent to the Articles of Religion contained in the Book of Common Prayer, but using a rite other than that set forth by this Church shall desire affiliation with this Church, while retaining the use of its own rite, such congregation shall with the consent of the Bishop in whose diocese it is situated make application through the Bishop to the Presiding Bishop for status. Such rite should customarily contain these common elements of Public Worship – a call to worship; a general confession; a song of praise; one or more readings from Holy Scripture; a

sermon, address, or homily; and a general prayer, and conform to the provisions of Canon 35 with regards to the administration of the sacraments.

Sec. 2. Any minister who has not received episcopal ordination or has received episcopal ordination from a Bishop not in communion with this Church, and desires to serve such a congregation shall conform to the provisions of Canon 35; sec. 3.

Sec. 3. Ministers and delegates of such congregations may have seats but no vote in the General and Diocesan Conventions unless by formal action of such Convention they be so admitted.

Sec. 4. The oversight of such congregations shall rest with the Bishop of the Diocese unless he delegates this authority to a Bishop who may be commissioned by the Presiding Bishop to have oversight over such congregations.

CANON 17 - Of Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies in Other Places.

Sec. 1. It shall be lawful, under the conditions hereinafter stated, to organize Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies in places which are in States and Territories or parts thereof, within or without North America, not organized into Dioceses or Missionary Districts.

Sec. 2. The Presiding Bishop or the Bishop Ordinary of a Diocese or Missionary District may authorize any Presbyter of this Church to officiate temporarily at any place to be named by him within any such place, upon being satisfied that it is expedient to establish at such place a Parish, Mission, or Religious Societies of this Church.

Sec. 3. Such Presbyter, after having publicly officiated at such place on four consecutive Sundays, may give notice, in the time of Divine Service, that a meeting of the Persons of full age, confirmed or ready and desirous of being confirmed, and attending the services, will be held, at a time and place to be named by the Presbyter in charge, to organize the Parish, Mission, or Religious Society. The said meeting may proceed to affect an organization subject to the approval of the said Bishop.

Sec. 4. Before being taken under the jurisdiction of a Bishop of this Church as a Bishop in Charge, such Parish, Mission, or Religious Society shall be required, in its Constitution, Rule and Constitution, Plan, or Articles of Organization, to recognize and accede to the Constitution, Canons, Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and to agree to submit to and obey such directions as may be, from time to time, received from the Bishop in Charge and his successors.

Sec. 5. The desire of such Parish, Mission, or Religious Society to be taken under the direction of the General Convention shall be duly certified by the Minister, if there be one, and two Vestrymen, Vestry Committeemen, Trustees, or other Officers of said Parish, Mission, or Religious Society, duly elected.

Sec. 6. Such certificate, and the Constitution, Rule and Constitution, Plan, or Articles of Organization, shall be submitted to the Bishop; and if he approves the same, such Parish, Mission, or Religious Society, and the Clergymen officiating therein, shall be placed under the government and jurisdiction of the Bishop in Charge and shall be subject to the Constitution and Canons of this Church and of the Diocese or Missionary District of the Bishop in Charge, and to

the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District, but the place of the Parish, Mission, or Religious Society shall form no part of the territory of the Diocese or Missionary District. The Constitution or Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District may provide for the seating of delegates from the Parish, Mission, or Religious Society in the Convention of the Diocese or the Convocation of the Missionary District, with or without voice, and with or without vote.

Sec. 7. The Bishop in Charge shall be the Bishop Ordinary of a Diocese or Missionary District. If the Bishop approving the certificate and other documents be the Bishop Ordinary of a Diocese or Missionary District, he shall be the Bishop in Charge. If the Bishop approving the certificate and other documents be the Presiding Bishop, he may, and if he is not the Bishop Ordinary of a Diocese or Missionary District he shall, assign the full charge of the Parish, Mission, or Religious Society to the Bishop Ordinary of a Diocese or Missionary District as the Bishop in Charge. Succession as the Bishop in Charge shall follow succession to the see of the Diocese or Missionary District. The Presiding Bishop shall give notice in writing to the Parish, Mission, or Religious Society affected by any assignment made under the provisions of this Section.

Sec. 8. Nothing in this Canon is to be construed as preventing the election of a Bishop to have charge of such Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies under the provisions of Canon 41.

Sec. 9. To aid the Bishop in Charge of these Parishes, Missions, and Religious Societies in administering the affairs of the same, and in settling such questions as may, by means of their peculiar situations, arise, the Bishop in Charge may appoint one or more Advisory Councils, composed of Clergymen and Laymen, communicants of this Church, who shall hold office at the pleasure of the Bishop in Charge. Advisory Councils shall be convened on the requisition of the Bishop in Charge whenever he may desire their advice, and they may meet of their own accord and agreeably to their own rules when they may wish to advise the Bishop in Charge. When a meeting is not practicable, the Bishop in Charge may ascertain their mind by letter.

CANON 18 - Of Regulations Respecting the Laity.

Sec. 1 (a). A communicant or baptized member in good standing, removing from one Congregation to another, shall be entitled to receive and shall procure from the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation of his or her last enrollment or, if there be no Clergyman in charge, from one of the Wardens, a certificate addressed to the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation to which removal is desired or, if there be no Clergyman in charge, to one of the Wardens, stating that he or she is duly registered or enrolled as a communicant or baptized member in the Congregation from which he or she desires to be transferred, and the Clergyman in charge or Warden of the Congregation to which such communicant or baptized member may remove shall enroll him or her as a communicant or baptized member when such certificate is presented, or, on failure to produce such certificate through no fault of such communicant or baptized member upon other evidence of his or her being such a communicant or baptized member, sufficient in the judgment of said Clergyman in charge or Warden. Notice of such enrollment in such Congregation to which such communicant or baptized member shall have removed shall be sent by the Clergyman in charge or Warden thereof to the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation or Warden thereof from which the communicant or baptized member is removed. Nothing in this Canon shall require a Chaplain or other Clergyman to enroll any person as a communicant or

baptized member of a Chapel of a Religious Community until such person has conformed to the Rule and Constitution of the Religious Community.

(b). Any communicant of any Church in communion with this Church shall be entitled to the benefit of this Section so far as the same can be made applicable.

(c). It shall be the duty of the Clergyman in charge of every Congregation or, if there be no Clergyman in charge, one of the Wardens, learning of the removal of any member of his Congregation to another Congregation without having secured a letter of transfer as herein provided, to transmit to the Clergyman in charge of such Congregation or, if there be no Clergyman in charge, to one of the Wardens, a letter of advice informing him thereof.

Sec. 2. When a person to whom the Sacraments of the Church shall have been refused, or who has been repelled from the Holy Communion under the Rubrics, or who desires a judgment as to his status in the Church, shall lodge a complaint or application with the Ecclesiastical Authority, it shall be the

duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority, unless it sees fit to require the person to be admitted or restored because of the insufficiency of the cause assigned by the Clergyman, to institute such an inquiry as may be directed by the Canons of the Diocese or Missionary district, and should no such Canon exist, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall proceed according to such principles of law and equity as will insure an impartial decision; but no Clergyman of this Church shall be required to admit to the Sacraments a person so refused or repelled, without the written direction of the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Sec. 3 (a). If any Bishop not a Bishop Ordinary, any Priest, or any Deacon of this Church shall have cause to think that a person desirous of Holy Baptism, or of Confirmation, or of receiving the Holy Communion, has been married otherwise than as the word of God and discipline of this Church allow, such Bishop not a Bishop Ordinary, Priest, or Deacon, before receiving such person to these ordinances, shall refer the case to the Ecclesiastical Authority for its judgment thereupon. The Ecclesiastical Authority, after due inquiry into the circumstances, and taking into consideration the godly discipline both of justice and of mercy, shall give its judgment thereon in writing. Provided, however, that no Clergyman shall in any case refuse these ordinances to a penitent person in imminent danger of death.

(b). Any persons who have been married by civil authority, or otherwise than as this Church provides, may apply to the Ecclesiastical Authority or to the Ecclesiastical Court of their domicile for the recognition of communicant status or for the right to apply for Holy Baptism or Confirmation. After due inquiry into all the facts relevant thereto, judgment shall be given in writing to the petitioners by the Ecclesiastical Authority or by the Ecclesiastical Court acting through the Ecclesiastical Authority.

(c). When marital unity is imperiled by dissension, it shall be the duty of either or both parties, before contemplating legal action, to lay the matter before a Clergyman of this Church; and it shall be the duty of such Clergyman to labor that the parties may be reconciled.

CANON 19 - Of the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony.

Sec. 1. Every Clergyman of this Church shall conform to the laws of the State governing the creation of the civil status of marriage, and also to the laws of this Church governing the

solemnization of Holy Matrimony.

Sec. 2. No Clergyman of this Church shall solemnize any marriage unless the following conditions are complied with:

(a). He shall have ascertained the right of the parties to contract a marriage according to the laws of the State.

(b). He shall have ascertained the right of the parties to contract a marriage according to the laws of this Church, and not in violation of the following impediments:

(1). Consanguinity (whether of the whole or of the half-blood) within the following degrees:

(a) One may not marry one's ascendant or descendant.

(b) One may not marry one's brother or sister.

(c) One may not marry the sister or brother of one's ascendant or the descendant of one's brother or sister.

(2). Mistake as to the identity of either party.

(3). Mental deficiency of either party sufficient to prevent the exercise of intelligent choice.

(4). Insanity of either party.

(5). Failure of either party to have reached the age of puberty.

(6). Impotence, sexual perversion, or the existence of venereal disease or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in either party known and undisclosed to the other.

(7). Facts which would make the proposed marriage bigamous.

(8). Concurrent contract inconsistent with the contract constituting canonical marriage.

(9). Attendant conditions: error as to the identity of either party, fraud, coercion or duress, or such defects of personality as to make competent or free consent impossible.

(c). He shall have ascertained that at least one of the parties has received Holy Baptism.

(d). He shall have instructed the parties as to the nature of Holy Matrimony.

(e). The intention of the parties to contract a marriage shall have been signified to the Clergyman at least three days before the service of solemnization; Provided, that, for weighty cause, the Clergyman may dispense with this requirement, if one of the parties is a member of his Congregation or can furnish satisfactory evidence of his responsibility. In case the three days' notice is waived, the Clergyman shall report his action in writing to the Ecclesiastical Authority immediately.

(f). There shall be present at least two witnesses to the solemnization of the marriage.

(g). The officiating Clergyman shall record in the proper register the date and place of the marriage, the names of the parties and their parents, the age of the parties, their residence, and their Church status, and the witnesses and the officiating Clergyman shall sign the record.

Sec. 3. The officiating Clergyman shall have required that the parties sign the following declaration:

We, A. B., and C. D., desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of husband and wife as it is set forth in the Form of Solemnization of Holy Matrimony in the Book of Common Prayer. We believe it is for the purpose of mutual fellowship, encouragement, and understanding, for the procreation (if it may be) of children, and their physical and spiritual nurture, for the safeguarding and benefit of society. And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto.

Sec. 4. It shall be within the discretion of any Clergyman of this Church to decline to solemnize any marriage.

Sec. 5. No Clergyman of this Church shall solemnize any marriage except in accordance with these Canons.

Sec. 6. No Clergyman of this Church shall solemnize the marriage of any person who has been the husband or wife of any other person then living whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by the civil court, except as hereinafter in these.

Canons provided; nor shall any member of this Church enter upon a marriage when either of the contracting parties has been the husband or the wife of any other person then living whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a civil court, except as hereinafter in these Canons provided.

CANON 20 - Of Regulations Respecting Holy Matrimony.

Sec. 1. The provisions of this Canon shall apply only to an active member of this Church in good standing.

Sec. 2 (a). Any person, being a member of this Church in good standing, whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a civil court of competent jurisdiction may apply to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District in which such person is canonically resident for a judgment as to his or her marital status in the eyes of the Church. And any person, being a member of this Church in good standing, who desires to marry a non-member of this Church whose previous marriage has been dissolved or annulled by a civil court of competent jurisdiction may apply to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District in which he or she is canonically resident, for permission to be married by a Clergyman of this Church, provided in both cases that the judgment of the civil court has become final and that at least one year shall have elapsed from the date that the decree became final. Such application should be made at least thirty days before a contemplated marriage.

(b). Where permission to be married by a Clergyman of this Church is sought, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall first be satisfied that the parties intend a true Christian marriage. The Ecclesiastical Authority shall take care that its judgment is based upon and conforms to the doctrine of this Church, that marriage is a physical, spiritual, and mystical union of a man and woman created by their mutual consent of heart, mind and will thereto, and is a Holy Estate instituted of God and is in intention lifelong; but when any of the facts set forth in Canon 19,

Section 2, Clause (b), are shown to exist or to have existed which manifestly establish that no marriage bond as the same is recognized by this Church exists, the same may be declared by proper authority. No such judgment shall be construed as reflecting in any way upon the legitimacy of children or the civil validity of the former relationship.

(c). Every judgment rendered under this Canon shall be in writing and shall be made a matter of permanent record in the Archives of the Diocese or Missionary District.

(d). Any person in whose favor a judgment has been granted under the provisions of this Canon may be married by a Clergyman of this Church, provided, that if the marriage is proposed to be solemnized in another jurisdiction than the one in which said judgment has been granted, the said judgment shall have previously been submitted to and approved by the Ecclesiastical Authority of that jurisdiction.

TITLE III.

WORSHIP.

CANON 21 - Of the Due Celebration of Sundays.

All persons within this Church shall celebrate and keep the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday, by regular participation in the public worship of the Church, by hearing the Word of God read and taught, and by other acts of devotion and works of charity, using all godly and sober conversation.

CANON 22 - Of Translations of the Bible.

The Lessons at Morning and Evening Prayer shall be read from the translation of the Holy Scriptures, commonly known as the King James or Authorized Version (which is the Standard Bible of this Church); or from one of the translations of the Masoretic text of the Old Testament, and the Textus Receptus of the New Testament as shall be authorized by the bishops.

This broadens the range of translations allowed whilst giving preference to the Majority Text of the New Testament in Public Worship.

CANON 23 - Of the Standard Book of Common Prayer.

Sec. 1. The copy of the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the Use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, the Form of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating Bishops, Priests and Deacons, the Form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, and an Office of Institution of Ministers, and Articles of Religion, accepted by the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America in the year of our Lord, 1928, and authenticated by the signatures of the Presiding Officers and secretaries of the two Houses of the General Convention, is hereby declared to be the Standard Book of Common Prayer of this Church.

Sec. 2. All copies of the Book of Common Prayer to be hereafter made and published shall conform to this Standard, and shall agree therewith in paging, and, as far as it is possible, in all other matters of typographical arrangement, except that the Rubrics may be printed either in red or black, and that page numbers shall be set against the several headings in the Table of Contents. The requirement of uniformity in paging shall apply to the entire book but shall not extend to editions smaller than those known as 32mo, or to editions noted for music.

Sec. 3. In case any typographical inaccuracy shall be found in the Standard Book of Common Prayer, its correction may be ordered by a joint resolution of any General Convention and notice of such corrections shall be communicated by the Custodian to the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese of this Church, and to actual publishers of the Book of Common Prayer.

Sec. 4. No copy, translation, or edition of the Book of Common Prayer, or a part or parts thereof, shall be made, printed, published, or used as of authority in this Church, which contains or is bound up with any alterations or additions thereto, or with any other matter, except the Holy Scriptures or the authorized Hymnal of this Church.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority of any Diocese or Missionary District in which any unauthorized edition of the Book of Common Prayer, or any part or parts thereof, shall be published or circulated, to give public notice that the said edition is not of authority in this Church._

Sec. 6 – For the avoidance of scruples, the Prayer for the Church in the Communion Service, the Forms for Baptism, and the Burial Office from the 1892 Book of Common Prayer may be used in any congregation of this Church with the Bishop's permission.

There are certain passages in the 1928 BCP which are, in the opinion of many, difficult to reconcile with the Articles of Religion, and with declared aim of the revisors of the BCP in 1789 not to differ from the doctrine of the Church of England "in any essential point of doctrine, disciple, or worship; nor further than local circumstances require." (BCP, 1928, p. vi)

CANON 24 - Of a Standing Liturgical Commission.

Sec. 1. The General Convention may establish a Standing Liturgical Commission. It shall be the duty of this Commission to collect and collate material bearing upon future revisions of the Book of Common Prayer, to prepare and present to the General Convention from time-to-time recommendations concerning the Lectionary and the use of the Psalter, to prepare Offices for Special Occasions as authorized or directed by the General Convention or the House of Bishops, and upon request to advise concerning Liturgical uses.

Sec. 2. (a). The Commission shall consist of seven members, of whom two shall be Bishops, two Presbyters, and two Laymen. The Custodian of the Book of Common Prayer shall be the seventh member of the Commission.

(b). The members shall be appointed by the Chairmen of the two Houses of the General Convention, the Bishops by the Presiding Bishop, and the Presbyters and Laymen by the President of the House of Deputies, for a term of three years. Vacancies occurring during the interval between sessions of the General Convention may be filled by the Chairmen of the two Houses in the manner of original appointments, those so appointed to serve until the close of the

next session of the General Convention.

(c). The Commission shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary and have power to constitute committees necessary for the carrying on of its work.

Sec. 3. The expenses of the Commission shall be met by appropriations by the General Convention.

CANON 25 - Of the Authorization of Special Forms of Service.

Sec. 1. In any Congregation, worshipping in other than the English language, it shall be lawful to use a form of service in such language; Provided, that such form of service shall have previously been approved by the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, until such time as an authorized edition of the Book of Common Prayer in such language shall be set forth by the authority of the General Convention, and Provided, further, that no Bishop shall license any such form of service until he shall first have been satisfied that the same is in accordance with the doctrine and worship of this Church; nor in any case shall such form of service be used for the ordination or consecration of Bishops, Priests, or Deacons.

Sec 2. The Minister and Vestry of any congregation not already using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, may request that the bishop authorizes the use of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer for that congregation. In using the 1662 BCP ministers shall follow the Calendar, and the Tables of Precedence of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. The Prayer for the Church in the Communion Service, and for those in Civil Authority elsewhere in the liturgy shall be altered to reflect the Constitution of this Republic.

CANON 26 - Of the Music of the Church.

It shall be the duty of every Minister to see that music is used in his Congregation as an offering for the glory of God and as a help to the people in their worship in accordance with the Book of Common Prayer and as authorized by the Rubric or by the General Convention of this Church. To this end he shall be the final authority in the administration of matters pertaining to music with such assistance as he may see fit to employ from persons skilled in music. It shall be his duty to suppress all light and unseemly music and all irreverence in the rendition thereof.

CANON 27 - Of the Consecration of Churches.

Sec. 1. No Church or Chapel shall be consecrated until the Bishop shall have been sufficiently certified that the building and the ground on which it is erected have been fully paid for, and are free from lien or other encumbrance; and also, that such building and ground are secured from the danger of alienation, either in whole or in part, from those who profess and practice the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, except in the cases provided in Secs. 2 and 3 of this Canon.

Sec. 2. It shall not be lawful for any Vestry, Vestry Committee, Trustees, or other body

authorized by laws of any State or Territory to hold property for any Diocese, Missionary District, Parish, Mission, or Religious Society, to encumber or alienate any consecrated Church or Chapel belonging to the Corporation which they represent, without first securing deconsecration of the same, which deconsecration shall not be unreasonably refused.

Sec. 3. No consecrated Church or Chapel shall be removed, taken down, or otherwise disposed of for any worldly or common use, without first securing deconsecration of the same, which deconsecration shall not be unreasonably refused.

TITLE IV.

THE MINISTRY.

CANON 28 - Of Preserving the Apostolic Succession

The United Episcopal Church of North America, being a branch of the one, holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, retains inviolate in the sacred ministry the three orders of Bishop, Priest (Presbyter), and Deacon, as of Apostolic Institution. The right to consecrate or ordain bishops, priest, and deacons belongs to the order of bishops only. In accordance with the law and custom of the ancient Church, bishops shall be consecrated by not fewer than three bishops in all ordinary cases, and priests and deacons shall be ordained by the bishop alone. In the case of priests, the priests present shall join in the laying on of hands.

CANON 29 - Of the Ordering of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons

Sec. 1. The ordering of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons shall be done according to the ordinal appended to the Book of Common Prayer (U.S. 1928; Canada 1962) and shall be held at the accustomed Embers Seasons unless there is sufficient reason to appoint some Sunday or Holyday for the conferral of Holy Orders. At the consecration of a bishop, in the absence of the Presiding Bishop, the senior bishop present shall preside unless otherwise decided by the bishops present.

Sec. 2. No man shall be ordained deacon until he shall have attained the age of twenty-one.

Sec. 3. No man shall be ordained a priest until he be fully twenty-four years of age.

Sec. 4. No man shall be ordered deacon and priest upon the same day.

Sec. 5. No man shall be consecrated a bishop unless he has been in priest's orders at least six years.

CANON 30 - Of Candidates for Holy Orders.

Sec. 1. Every man seeking Holy Orders shall in the first place seek the counsel and advice of the incumbent of the parish in which he resides, or another godly and learned clergyman. If that clergyman be satisfied with the spiritual, moral, and academic attainments of the applicant, he shall encourage the aspirant to apply to the bishop for admission as a candidate for Holy Orders.

Sec. 2. In support of such an application, he shall obtain letters testimonial from the rector and

vestry of the parish in which he resides, or from a clergyman of this Church, and three lay persons who shall have known the applicant for not less than two years. He shall also supply his full name and address, the date of his age, date of baptism, confirmation, and admission to Holy Communion, a medical certificate attesting to the sufficiency of his general health, and proof that he shall have reached an adequate level of education to commence the prescribed course of study.

Sec. 3. Should the bishop be satisfied as to the spiritual, moral, and academic character of the aspirant, he shall grant a Letter of Candidacy in the accustomed form.

Sec. 4. Before admission as a candidate for Holy Orders, the applicant shall be examined by the bishop and his examining chaplains, and by the Standing Committee, or the Council of Advice of the Diocese as to his general fitness and progress in sacred learning, and shall be subject to background and credit checks.

Sec. 5. Every man admitted to the order of deacons in the Church shall display sufficient knowledge of Holy Scripture, and of the doctrine, discipline, and worship of this Church, and shall have obtained such qualifications as the House of Bishops shall require and have been publicly examined by the Bishop of the Diocese and his examining chaplains.

Sec. 6. Before any man is ordained to the diaconate, the bishop must be satisfied as to that person's continued physical and mental fitness, and shall have received letters testimonial as to the candidate's good life and conversation. The form usually called 'Si Quis' shall be publicly read in the congregation of which the candidate is a member at such times as shall be prescribed, and opportunity given for any alleged impediment to be stated and examined. No candidate for the diaconate shall be ordained unless he shall have attained twenty-one years of age.

Sec. 7. Before being ordained to the priesthood, all candidates must have attained twenty-four years of age, and shall satisfy the bishop of their continued studies, their spiritual development, and of their growth in the ministries committed to them.

Sec. 8. No man shall be admitted to Holy Orders unless he has a valid title setting forth that person's proposed sphere of duty.

Sec. 9. No bishop shall ordain a man having a title in another diocese unless he also brings a Letter Dimissory from the Bishop of the Diocese wherein that person's ministry is to be exercised.

Sec. 10. No bishop shall ordain any man to Holy Orders without having first received their subscription to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of this church as laid down by Article VIII of the Constitution of this Church.

Sec. 11. If special and extraordinary circumstances exist which make it inadvisable to exact all the requirements of Sections 5 and 6 of this Canon, the bishop of the diocese may request from the House of Bishops a dispensation from a specific requirement of this Canon provided that the Candidate displays sufficient knowledge of the Scriptures and of the doctrine, discipline, and worship of this Church, and is otherwise qualified to receive Holy Orders.

[Canon 31 has withdrawn and been merged into Canon 30, above]

CANON 32 - Of Clerical Studies

The teaching of the United Episcopal Church of North America is grounded upon the Holy Scriptures and the Early Fathers of the Church. The clergy of this church shall apply themselves to the reading of Holy Scripture, to such studies as help in the knowledge of the same, and to such other studies as pertain to their clerical duties. They shall follow such courses of study as may be decided upon, from time to time, by the House of Bishops.

CANON 33 - Of Examining Chaplains.

The bishop shall appoint two or more godly and learned priests to assist him in the examination of candidates for Holy Orders prior to their admission to the diaconate, and also to examine those about to be ordained priest as to their fitness.

CANON 34 - Of Ministers following Secular Avocations

Any minister of this Church may follow any proper secular avocation for the support of himself, and others dependent on him, provided that it does not interfere with the performance of his duties as a minister of this Church.

CANON 35 - Of the Reception of Ministers from Other Churches

Sec. 1. Any duly ordained minister of another church may be received by the bishop into the ministry of this Church provided that he can give proof of his literary and theological attainments, good standing in his previous denomination, religious character, and gives sufficient assurance of the validity and regularity of his Orders. Furthermore, he shall be examined as to his knowledge of the doctrine, discipline, and worship of this Church, and make the Declaration of Conformity required by Article VIII of the Constitution of this Church before he is licensed as a minister of the same.

Sec 2. Ministers not able to provide sufficient proof of the validity and regularity of their Orders shall be ordained either conditionally, or *ab initio* as the circumstances of their previous ordination shall dictate.

Sec. 3. Any minister of this Church serving a congregation which is not affiliated with this Church, or shall have been admitted into communion with this Church under the provisions of Canon 16, shall undertake that:

a. In the administration of Baptism to unfailingly baptize with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
b. He shall also undertake that in the celebration of the Holy Communion he will invariably use the elements of bread and wine, and will include in the service
   (1) a Prayer of Consecration, embodying the Words and Acts of our Lord in the institution of the Sacrament, an Offering, an Invocation of the Word and/or Holy Spirit and a Thanksgiving,
   (2) the Lord's Prayer, and
   (3) the Apostles' or Nicene Creed as a symbol of the faith and unity of Holy Catholic Church.

c. He shall also agree to meet regularly with the bishop having jurisdiction over him, or if there be none, with the Presiding Bishop,
d. He shall hold himself accountable to said Bishop in case he be called into question with respect to error of religion or of conduct.

Sec 4. The letters of orders of any minister ordained under this provision may be prefaced with the following acknowledgement of their previous ministry: "Recognizing the ministry which he has already received and hereby adding to that commission the grace and authority of Holy Orders required for the exercise of the ministry of this Church."

CANON 36, 37, & 38 HAVE BEEN REPEALED

CANON 39 - Of the Election of Bishops

Sec. 1. When a Diocese or Missionary District is vacated by the death, resignation or retirement of the incumbent bishop, the President of the Standing Committee shall notify the Presiding Bishop, or during a vacancy in the Office of Presiding Bishop, the senior bishop by date of consecration having jurisdiction.

a. In the case of a Diocese, a writ from the College of Bishops to proceed with the election of a bishop at the diocesan synod next following shall be requested.

b. In the case of a Missionary District, the House of Bishops shall nominate a duly qualified person or persons for the approval General Convention, or should the vacancy occur more than a year before the next scheduled meeting of the General Convention, the House of Bishops shall nominate, and send the names of those nominated to the Standing Committees of the several Diocese and Missionary Districts of this Church for approval.

Sec. 2. Those nominated for the office of bishop must be presbyters in good standing in this Church, have served at least six years as a presbyter, be at least forty years of age and have demonstrated their fidelity to this Church. No candidate for the office of bishop shall be more than sixty-seven years of age at the time of the proposed election.

Sec. 3. At any meeting of the General Convention or of a Diocesan Convention at which it is proposed to elect a bishop there shall first be a prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The clerical and lay members of the Convention or Synod shall vote by voting papers, each for one or more persons, not exceeding three, provided that no man may vote for himself.

The voting papers shall be examined, and the names of the two persons who shall have obtained the largest number of votes of the members of each order present and voting shall be placed on the select list.

The members of each shall then proceed to vote on the names so selected, each member voting for one member. Voting shall continue until one of the candidates shall have obtained a two-thirds majority in both houses. Provided that if, after six ballots, no candidate shall have

obtained the necessary majority in both houses, the election shall be declared void, and the matter referred to the House of Bishops.

The House of Bishops may (a) appoint one of the candidates on the select list as bishop of the diocese, or (b) require a fresh election, or (c) nominate a candidate of their own for the approval of the Diocesan Synod, as in their judgement shall best serve the interests of the Church.

Sec. 4. In the event of the election being successfully concluded, the Secretary of the General Convention, or Diocesan Convention, shall notify the Presiding Bishop by a Certificate of Election, stating the name of the priest elected, and signed by the President of the Standing Committee, and a majority of the delegates at Diocesan Convention.

Sec. 5. The Secretary of the General Convention, or Diocesan Convention shall also furnish the following Certificate of Good Life and Learning signed by a clear majority of the diocesan Convention in the following form:

> "We, whose names are here under written, are fully sensible of how important it is that the office of Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly convinced of our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion, without partiality, fear or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify that the Rev. A. B., Bishop-elect, is not justly liable to evil report either for error in religion, or for viciousness of life, and we do not know or believe that there is any impediment on account of which he ought not to be consecrated to that office.
> We do, moreover, jointly and severally declare that we do in our conscience believe him to be of such soundness of faith and of such virtuous and pure manners, and godly conversation, that he is apt and meet to exercise the office of Bishop, to the honour of God, and the edifying of His Church, and to be a wholesome example to the flock of Christ."

Sec. 6. If such election take place within the six months prior to a meeting of the General Convention, the Certificates of Election, and Good Life and Learning shall be presented before General Convention for their approval. At other times, copies of the said Certificates shall be transmitted by the Presiding Bishop, or if there be no Presiding Bishop, the senior Bishop by date of consecration having jurisdiction, to the bishops, and to the President of the Standing Committee of each diocese and missionary district for their consent. The approval of both Houses of the General Convention, or of a plurality of the Bishops and Standing Committees of the several dioceses shall be secured before the Consecration may proceed.

Sec. 7. The Presiding Bishop shall then take order for the consecration of the bishop-elect, which shall take place at the General Convention next following, or else at a time, and place appointed by the Presiding Bishop. Three bishops shall always be present at such a consecration, either the Presiding Bishop, and two other bishops, or three bishops, the senior one of which shall be the principal consecrator. The bishop-elect shall be consecrated according to the form received by the Church and appended to the Book of Common Prayer.

CANON 40 - Of the Duties of Bishops

Sec. 1. The bishop elected to the charge of a Diocese or Missionary District shall reside within the boundaries of that diocese, or in some place of access convenient thereto approved by the House of Bishops. If ill-health or other important considerations require an absence of more than four months in any one year, the consent of the House of Bishops shall be obtained. The Standing Committee of the Diocese shall act as the ecclesiastical authority during such an absence.

Sec. 2. The bishop is the chief pastor to all who live in the Diocese or Missionary District, and their Father-in-God. It appertains to the office of a bishop that he shall teach and uphold sound and wholesome doctrine and drive away all strange and erroneous doctrine contrary to God's Word. To this end it is deemed proper that every bishop of this Church shall deliver, at least once in every three years a Charge to the clergy of the diocese, unless prevented by reasonable cause. It is also deemed proper that from time to time, he shall address to the people of his diocese Pastoral Letters on some points of Christian doctrine, worship, or manner.

Sec. 3. Every bishop of this church shall visit the parishes within his jurisdiction at least once in three years for the purpose of examining the state of his Church, inspecting the behaviour of his clergy, administering the apostolic rite of confirmation, ministering the Word, and, if he sees fit, administering the Lord's Supper to the people committed to his charge. And if a bishop shall for more than three years decline to visit a parish or congregation, for reasons which seem sufficient to him, it shall be the duty of the Rector, or Minister, and Vestry, or one of them, to apply to the Presiding Bishop to appoint a Council of Conciliation, consisting of three clergymen, one of whom shall be a bishop, who shall amicably determine all matters of difference between the parties, and each party shall conform to the judgement of the Council in the matters under consideration. If the Presiding Bishop shall be the party within whose jurisdiction the Parish or Congregation shall lie, then the application shall be made to the bishop next in seniority. In any such case as is above mentioned, the bishop within whose jurisdiction the Parish or Congregation may be, may at any time, if he please, apply himself to the Presiding Bishop for a Council of Conciliation.

Sec. 4. To enable the bishop, who may be the Rector of a Church, to make his visitation, it shall be the duty of the clergy, in such reasonable rotation as can be devised, to officiate for him in the performance of his parochial duties, provision being made for their expenses.

Sec. 5. The necessary expenses of the bishops in their visitations shall be borne by the Episcopal Fund established by the General Convention.

Sec. 6. The bishop shall keep a register detailing his episcopal acts, and his proceedings at every Visitation of his diocese.

Sec. 7. The bishop shall have the discretion to draw up forms of Prayer for any occasion for which the Book of Common Prayer makes no provision, and for which the General Convention has not produced an authorized form. Such services shall not contain anything that can be

construed as promoting doctrines contrary to Scripture, or the teachings of the Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer as received by this Church.

Sec. 8. Any Bishop, Assistant Bishop, or Missionary Bishop may, on the invitation of the Diocesan Convention, District Convocation, or Standing Committee of any Diocese or District where there shall be no bishop, or where the bishop is unable to perform Episcopal offices by reason of judicial sentence, visit and perform Episcopal Offices in that diocese or part thereof; and this invitation may be temporary, and it may at any time be revoked.

Sec. 9. A diocese which is without a bishop, or whose bishop is under disability by reason of judicial sentence, may, by its Convention or Convocation, be placed under the full Episcopal charge and authority of the bishop of an adjoining Diocese, or that of a missionary bishop, who shall perform all Episcopal Offices in that diocese until a new bishop is elected and consecrated, or the bishop of the diocese is no longer under judicial sentence. Such a bishop shall be styled the Interim Bishop, or Episcopal Visitor, of the Diocese

Sec. 10. No diocese that has placed itself under the authority of another Diocesan Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall invite a second bishop to perform Episcopal Offices except with the permission of the Interim Bishop or Episcopal Visitor unless it shall have dissolved the relationship with the first bishop.

Sec. 11. Bishops desiring to retire or resign shall submit their resignation to the Presiding Bishop, or if it be the Presiding Bishop, or the Office of Presiding Bishop be vacant, to the senior bishop by date of consecration having jurisdiction not less that ninety days before such resignation or retirement is due to take effect.

Sec. 12. Bishops upon attaining the age of seventy shall submit a certificate from a physician who shall have examined them during the month previous attesting to their good physical and mental health to the Presiding Bishop, and to the President of the Standing Committee, and shall do so annually thereafter until such time as they shall retire or resign. *Provided,* that, in the event of the bishop having reached the age of seventy-two, the Diocesan Synod, believing the Diocesan Bishop to be no longer capable of exercising his jurisdiction effectively, may vote to request that the House of Bishops direct that he step down.

Sec. 13. Bishops thus retired or resigned shall be liable to the Constitution and Canons of this Church so long as they shall remain members thereof.

CANON 41 - Of Assistant Bishops

In the event of the Diocesan Bishop becoming ill or permanently incapacitated, permission may be requested from the House of Bishops for the election of an Assistant Bishop to assist the Diocesan. The Assistant Bishop shall have right of succession in the event of the resignation or death of the sitting diocesan and shall not be eligible for election as Diocesan Bishop of another diocese, or for appointment as a Missionary Bishop.

CANON 42 - Of Missionary Bishops

The General Convention may, from time to time, on the nomination of the House of Bishops, select fit persons to serve as missionary bishops within any of the Missionary Districts which have been, or shall be, erected by the General Convention. If a vacancy occurs in a Missionary District more than twelve months before the next General Convention is scheduled to meet, the House of Bishops shall nominate, but the approval of said nomination shall pass to the Standing Committees of the various Dioceses and Missionary Districts of this Church.
Such bishops shall exercise jurisdiction over the district assigned to them, and report regularly to the National Council as to the progress of their ministry. Missionary Bishops shall be eligible for election as Diocesan or Assistant Bishop but shall retain their missionary jurisdiction additionally until such time as a successor shall be appointed.

CANON 43 - Of maintaining a clergy list

Each bishop shall keep a list of the clergy canonically resident within his jurisdiction, which he shall update annually, and send a copy thereof to the Presiding Bishop, and the Secretary of the General Convention who shall collect the lists into a book kept for the purpose. Such a list shall be transmitted to the next bishop, and to each successive bishop having jurisdiction.

The text of Canon 39 is drawn from the 1927 Canons of the Free Church of England; Canon 40 from the Scottish Canons of 1972, and the remaining three are abridgements of the text of the 1860 PECUSA Canons on these topics.

CANONS 44, 45, and 46 have been repealed.

CANON 47 - Of Congregational Clergymen and Their Duties.

Sec. 1 (a). The control of the worship, and the spiritual jurisdiction of the Parish, are vested in the Rector, subject to the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer, the Canons of the Church, and the godly counsel of the Bishop Ordinary. All other Clergymen of the Parish, by whatever name they may be designated, are to be regarded as under the Authority of the Rector.

(b). For the purposes of his office and for the full and free discharge of all functions and duties pertaining thereto, the Rector shall, at all times, be entitled to the use and control of the Church and Parish buildings with the appurtenances and furniture thereof.

(c). In a Mission the control and responsibility belong to the Priest who has been duly appointed to the charge thereof, subject to the authority of the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Sec. 2 (a). It shall be the duty of Clergymen of this Church who have charge of Congregations to be diligent in instructing the children in the Catechism, and from time to time to examine them in the same publicly before the congregation. They shall also, by stated catechetical lectures and instruction, inform the youth and others in the Holy Scriptures and the Doctrine, Polity, History and Liturgy of the Church. They shall also instruct all persons in their Congregations concerning all the missionary work of the Church at home and abroad and give suitable opportunities for

offerings to maintain that work.

(b). It shall be the duty of Clergymen before baptizing infants or children to prepare the sponsors by instructing both the parents and the Godparents concerning the significance of Holy Baptism, the responsibilities of parents and Godparents for the Christian training of the baptized child, and how these obligations may properly be discharged.

(c). It shall be the duty of Clergymen to prepare young persons and others for Confirmation; and on notice being received from the Bishop Ordinary of his intention to visit any Church, which notice shall be at least one month before the intended visitation, the Clergyman shall announce the fact to the congregation on the first Sunday after the receipt of such notice; and he shall be ready to present for Confirmation such persons as he shall judge to be qualified, and shall deliver to the Bishop Ordinary a list of the names of those to be confirmed.

(d). At every visitation, it shall be the duty of the Clergyman having pastoral charge, and of the Churchwardens, Vestrymen, Vestry Committeemen, or some other officer, to exhibit to the Bishop Ordinary the Congregation Register and to give information to him of the state of the Congregation, spiritual and temporal, under such heads as shall have been previously signified to them, in writing, by the Bishop Ordinary.

(e). Whenever the House of Bishops shall put forth a Pastoral Letter, it shall be the duty of every Clergyman having a pastoral charge, or, if there be none, a Lay Reader, or the senior Churchwarden, to read it to his Congregation on some occasion of public worship on a Lord's Day, not later than one month after the receipt of the same.

Sec. 3 (a). A Register shall be maintained for every Congregation of this Church.

(b). The registry of every Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and Burial shall be signed by the officiating Clergyman.

(c). Every Clergyman of this Church in charge of a Congregation shall have recorded in the Register thereof the names and all other pertinent information:

(1) of all Communicants of the Congregation,
(2) of all persons who have received Holy Baptism,
(3) of all persons who have received Confirmation,
(4) of all persons who have received Holy Matrimony, and
(5) of all persons who have received Burial. He shall indicate upon the Congregation Register each year the names of those who have died in the past year or whose names have been removed by letter of transfer.

He shall also indicate in such Register

(1) those whose domicile is unknown, and

(2) those whose domicile is known but are inactive.

Apart from the Register, he shall maintain as far as practicable a list of all families and persons within his Congregation, which list shall remain in the Congregation for the use of his successor. If a Congregation shall have no Clergyman in charge, the senior Churchwarden or Officer thereof shall perform the duties of this Clause.

Sec. 4 (a). No Clergyman of this Church shall officiate, either by preaching, reading prayers in public worship, or by performing any other priestly or ministerial function, in the Congregation of another Clergyman, without the consent of the Clergyman of that Congregation; or of one of its Churchwardens if, in his absence or disability, the Clergyman fail to provide for the stated services of such Congregation.

(b). If any Clergyman of this Church, from disability or any other cause, neglect to perform the regular services in his Congregation, and refuse, without good cause, his consent to any other duly qualified Clergyman of this Church to officiate within his Congregation, the Churchwardens, Vestrymen, or Vestry Committeemen of the Congregation shall, on proof before the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District of such neglect or refusal, have power, with the written consent of the said Authority, to permit any duly qualified Clergyman of this Church to officiate.

Sec. 5 (a). A Priest or Deacon of this Church removing into a Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction shall, in order to gain canonical residence within the same, present to the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof, a testimonial from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he last had canonical residence, which testimonial shall set forth his true standing and character. The said testimonial shall be given by the Ecclesiastical Authority to the applicant, and a duplicate thereof may be sent to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which he proposes to remove. The testimonial may be in the following words:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B., who has signified to me his desire to be transferred to the Ecclesiastical Authority of is a Presbyter (or Deacon) of in good standing, and has not, so far as I know or believe, been justly liable to evil report, for error in religion or for viciousness of life, for three years last past.

(Signed)

(b). Such testimonial shall be called Letters Dimissory. The canonical residence of the Priest or Deacon so transferred shall date from the acceptance of his Letters Dimissory, of which prompt notice shall be given both to the applicant and to the Ecclesiastical Authority from which it came.

(c). Letters Dimissory not presented within six months from the date of their transmission to the applicant shall become wholly void.

(d). If a Priest or Deacon, removing into another Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, has been called to a Congregation therein, he shall present Letters Dimissory in the form above given. It shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which he has removed, to accept them within three months, unless the Ecclesiastical Authority shall have heard rumors, which it believes to be well founded, against the character of the Priest or Deacon concerned, which would form a proper ground of canonical inquiry and presentment, in which case the Ecclesiastical Authority shall communicate the same to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to whose jurisdiction the said Priest or Deacon belongs; and in such case, it shall not be the duty of the

Ecclesiastical Authority to accept the Letters Dimissory unless and until the Priest or Deacon shall be exculpated from the said charge.

(e). No Clergyman, removing from one Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to another, shall officiate in any Congregation of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which he removes, until he shall have obtained from the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof a certificate in the words following:

I hereby certify that the Reverend (or Right Reverend) A. B. has been canonically transferred to my jurisdiction and is a Clergyman in good standing.

(Signed)

(f). No person who has been refused Ordination or reception as a Candidate in any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and who has afterwards been ordained in another Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, shall be transferred to the Diocese or Missionary District in which such refusal has taken place without the consent of its Ecclesiastical Authority.

(g). No person who has been ordained under the provisions of Canon 34, Sec. 2 shall be transferred to another Diocese or Missionary District, save as provided in the said Canon.

Sec. 6. No Clergyman shall officiate more than two months, by preaching, ministering the Sacraments, or holding any public service, within the limits of any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction other than that in which he is canonically resident, without a license from the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Sec. 7 (a). Any Priest or Deacon of this Church desiring to officiate temporarily without the confines of this Church shall, in order so to do, obtain from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he has canonical residence, a testimonial which shall set forth his true standing and character, and may be in the following words:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B., who has signified to me his desire to be permitted to officiate temporarily in churches not under the jurisdiction of the United Episcopal Church, is a Presbyter (or Deacon) of in good standing, and as such is entitled to the rights and privileges of his order. This testimonial is valid for one year from date of issuance and is to be returned to the Ecclesiastical Authority at the end of that period.

(b). The Ecclesiastical Authority giving such testimonial shall keep a record of issuance of such, in which the date of issuance and of return shall be recorded, together with the name of the Priest or Deacon to whom the testimonial has been issued.

Sec. 8. Upon attaining the age of seventy-two years, every Priest or Deacon of this Church occupying any remunerative position in this Church shall resign the same and retire from active service, and his resignation shall be accepted. Thereafter, he may accept any position in this Church, provided, that:

(a) the tenure in such position shall be or a period of not more than one year, which period may be renewed from time to time, and

(b) service in such position shall have the express approval of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the

Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which such service is to be performed, acting in consultation with the Ecclesiastical Authority of the canonical residence of such Priest or Deacon.

CANON 48 - Of the Dissolution of the Pastoral Relation.

Sec. 1. Except as provided in Canon 47, Sec. 8, a Rector may not resign his Parish without the consent of the said Parish or its Vestry, whichever may be authorized to act in the premises, nor may any Rector canonically or lawfully elected and in charge of any Parish be removed therefrom by said Parish or Vestry against his will, except as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. If for any urgent reason a Rector as aforesaid, or the body authorized to elect a Rector in the Parish committed to his charge, shall desire a separation and dissolution of the pastoral relation, and the parties be not agreed respecting a separation and dissolution, notice in writing may be given by either party to the Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction. The Bishop Ordinary in case the difference be not settled by his godly judgment, shall ask the advice and consent of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or of the Council of Advice of the Missionary District, and, proceeding with its aid and counsel, shall be the ultimate arbiter and judge. The judgment shall be either that the pastoral relation between the parties shall cease at a time and upon terms therein specified, or that the said relation shall not be terminated; and such judgment shall be binding upon both parties. In the event of the failure or refusal of either party to comply with the terms of such judgment, the Bishop Ordinary may impose such penalties as may be provided by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District; and in default of any provisions for such penalties therein, the Bishop Ordinary may (1) in the case of a Rector, suspend such Rector from the exercise of his priestly office until he shall comply with said judgment; (2) in the case of a Vestry, recommend to the Diocesan Convention or Missionary Convocation that the union of the Parish with the Convention or Convocation shall cease until they have complied with his judgment, or, if the Parish be not within a Diocese or Missionary District, that the union of the Parish with the Church be dissolved.

Sec. 3. In case of the regular and canonical dissolution of the connection between a Rector and his Parish under this Canon, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall direct the Secretary of the Convention or Convocation to record the same.

Sec. 4. When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which the Parish is situated has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Presiding Bishop or a Bishop appointed by him, shall discharge the duties of this Canon assigned to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 5. This Canon shall not apply in any Diocese or Missionary District which has made, or shall hereafter make, provision by Canon upon this subject, nor in contravention of any right of any Rector, Parish, or Vestry under the law of the Civil Authority.

CANON 49 - Of the Filling of Vacant Congregations.

Sec. 1. When a Congregation becomes vacant, the Churchwardens or other proper Officers shall notify the fact to the Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction. If the authorities of the

Congregation shall for thirty days have failed to make provision for Divine services, it shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority to take such measures as it may deem expedient for the temporary maintenance of Divine services therein.

Sec. 2. No election of a Rector shall be had until the name of the Bishop or Priest whom it is proposed to elect has been made known to the Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction and sufficient time, not exceeding thirty days, has been given the Ecclesiastical Authority to communicate with the Vestry thereon, nor until such communication, if made within that period, has been considered by the Parish or Vestry at a meeting duly called and held for that purpose.

Sec. 3. Written notice of the election, signed by the Churchwardens, shall be sent to the Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction. If the Ecclesiastical Authority be satisfied that the person so chosen is a duly qualified Bishop or Priest, and that he has accepted the office, the notice shall be sent to the Secretary of the Convention or Convocation, who shall record it. And such record shall be sufficient evidence of the relation between the Rector and the Parish.

Sec. 4. In case of the election of an Assistant Clergyman, the name of the Clergyman whom it is proposed to elect shall be made known to the Ecclesiastical Authority having jurisdiction and sufficient time, not exceeding thirty days, shall be given the Ecclesiastical Authority to communicate with the Rector and Vestry thereon.

CANON 50 - Of Deacons.

Sec. 1. Every Deacon shall be subject to the direction of the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction for which he has been ordained until he is canonically transferred to some other jurisdiction. He shall officiate in such places only as the Bishop Ordinary may designate. He shall not accept any appointment for work outside the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which he canonically belongs without the written consent both of his own Ecclesiastical Authority and of the Ecclesiastical Authority under whose jurisdiction he desires to minister.

Sec. 2 (a). No Deacon shall be a Rector of a Parish, nor be permitted to accept a Chaplaincy in the Armed Forces of any Country.

(b). A Deacon ministering in a Congregation under the charge of a Priest, shall act under the direction of such Priest in all his ministrations.

(c). A Deacon ministering in a Congregation not under the charge of a Priest, shall, if not under the immediate direction of the Bishop Ordinary, be placed under the authority of some neighboring Priest, by whose direction in subordination to the Bishop Ordinary, he shall in all things be governed.

Sec. 3. No Deacon who shall not have passed the examinations prescribed in Canon 31, Sec. 1, shall be transferred to another jurisdiction without the written request of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the same.

Sec. 4. In case of a Deacon desiring to be transferred from one Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to another, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the former Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction must state in the

Letters Dimissory the exact standing of the Deacon as regards Examinations passed or Dispensations received: also, the dates of his birth, admission as a Candidate, and ordination.

Sec. 5. When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the Deacon is canonically attached has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Clerical members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice shall, through their President, discharge the duties assigned in this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary.

CANON 51 - Of Persons Not Clergymen in this Church Officiating in any Congregation Thereof.

No Clergyman in charge of any Congregation of this Church, or, in case of vacancy or absence, no Churchwardens, Vestrymen, or Vestry Committeemen of the Congregation, shall permit any person to officiate therein, without sufficient evidence of his being duly licensed or ordained to minister in this Church; Provided, that nothing herein shall be so construed as to forbid communicants of the Church to act as Lay Readers; or to prevent the Ecclesiastical Authority of any Diocese or Missionary District giving permission to a Clergyman of any Church in the Anglican Tradition to preach the Gospel, or to Christian persons, who are not Clergymen of this Church, to make addresses in the Church on special occasions.

CANON 52 - Of Lay Readers.

Sec. 1. A competent person ready and desirous to serve the Church in the public services stately as a Lay Reader must procure a written license from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction of which he is a canonical resident. Such license shall not be granted to any but a male communicant of this Church, and must be given for a definite period, not longer than one year, but may be renewed from time to time, or revoked at any time. Such license may be given for any vacant Congregation without a Clergyman, but where a Presbyter is in charge, his request and recommendation must have been previously signified to the Ecclesiastical Authority. A license shall not be granted for conducting the service in a Congregation without a Clergyman, which is able and has had reasonable opportunity to secure the services of a Clergyman.

Sec. 2. A Lay Reader shall be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Ecclesiastical Authority, and shall not serve in any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction other than that in which he is licensed, unless he shall have received a license from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he desires to serve.

Sec. 3. In all matters relating to the conduct of the service, and to the Sermons or Homilies to be read, he shall conform to the directions of the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation in which he is serving, and, in all cases, to the directions of the Ecclesiastical Authority. He shall read only the following Offices, or parts thereof, and shall observe the limitations mentioned:

(1). Morning and Evening Prayer, omitting the Absolution, and making no substitution for it.

(2). The Litany.

(3). The Penitential Office.

(4). The Offices of Instruction.

(5). In the Order for Holy Communion, the Epistle only.

(6). The Burial Offices; substituting for the priestly blessing the concluding prayer at the end of the Shorter Form for Family Prayer at Evening; substituting for the priestly blessing at the grave the final prayer at the end of the Shorter Form for Family Prayer at Morning; and substituting for the priestly blessing at the Burial of a Child the concluding prayer at the end of the Shorter Form for Family Prayer at Evening. He shall not deliver sermons or addresses of his own composition, unless, after instruction and examination, he be specially licensed thereto for urgent needs by the Ecclesiastical Authority. He shall not wear the dress appropriate to Clergymen ministering in the Congregation.

CANON 53 - Of Deaconesses.

Sec. 1. A woman of devout character and proved fitness, may be appointed, and admitted Deaconess, subject to the provisions of this Canon. Such appointment and admission are not, and shall not be construed as, an ordination.

Sec. 2 (a). The duty of a Deaconess is to assist in the work of the Congregation or institution to which she may be appointed, under the direction of the Rector or Priest in charge; or, if there be none such, to perform such functions as may be directly entrusted to her by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which she is canonically attached.

(b). The following are the chief functions which may be entrusted to a Deaconess:

(1). To care for the sick, the afflicted, and the poor.

(2). To give instruction in the Christian faith.

(3). Under the Rector or the Priest in charge, to prepare candidates for Baptism and for Confirmation.

(4). To assist at the administration of Holy Baptism and in the absence of the Priest or Deacon to baptize infants.

(5). Under the Rector or Priest in charge to organize, superintend, and carry out the Church's work among women and children.

(6). With the approval of the Bishop Ordinary and the incumbent, to <u>conduct services of prayer and the reading of Scripture with the women and children of the parish</u>; and when licensed by the Bishop Ordinary, to give instruction or deliver addresses at such services.

(7). To organize and carry-on social work; and in colleges and schools to have a responsible part in the education of women and children, and to promote the welfare of women students.

Sec. 3 (a)(1). A woman desiring reception as candidate for the office of Deaconess shall in the

first place seek the counsel and advice of the incumbent of the parish in which she resides, or of another godly and learned clergyman. If that clergyman shall be satisfied shall be satisfied with the spiritual, moral and academic attainments of the applicant, he shall encourage her to apply to the bishop for admission as a Candidate for the Office of a Deaconess.

(2). In support of such an application, a woman desiring to be a deaconess shall submit to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which she desire to be attached letters testimonial from the rector and vestry of the parish in which she resides, or from a clergyman of this Church, and three lay persons who shall have known the aspirant for not less than two years. She shall also supply her full name and address, age, the date of her baptism, confirmation, and admission to Holy Communion, a medical certificate attesting to the sufficiency of her general health, and proof that she shall have reached an adequate level of education to commence the prescribed course of study.

(3). Should the bishop be satisfied as to the spiritual, moral, and academic character of the applicant, she shall grant a Letter of Candidacy.

(4). Before admission as a deaconess, the candidate shall be examined by the bishop and his examining chaplains, and by the Standing Committee, or the Council of Advice of the Diocese as to her general fitness and progress in sacred learning.

(b). During the period of candidateship, she shall be under the supervision of the Bishop Ordinary and shall report to him quarterly during the Ember Days. If possible, at least one- half of the time of her preparation shall be spent in residence with Deaconesses, or at a Church Training School.

(c). For due cause, the Bishop Ordinary may terminate any candidacy.

Sec. 4 (a). Before admission to the office of Deaconess a candidate shall be required to pass examinations in the following subjects:

> (1). Holy Scripture: The Bible in English; introduction to and contents of the various books; special knowledge of at least one Gospel and one Epistle.
>
> (2). Church History: A general outline, including the History of the Church in North America, and special knowledge of the first five centuries.
>
> (3). Christian Missions: History; present extent and methods; at least one missionary biography.
>
> (4). Doctrine: Contents and teaching of the Book of Common Prayer, including preparation for the Sacraments.
>
> (5). Ministration: The office and work of a Deaconess; Parish Work and Organization.
>
> (6). Religious Education: Psychology; Educational methods; Church School Management.
>
> (7). Social Service: Principles involved in the adjustment of individuals to each other and to the community; the methods of social case work; familiarity with the recognized standards of the work of social organizations including institutions.

(b). This examination shall be conducted by examiners appointed by the Bishop Ordinary. The results of the examination shall be certified to the Bishop Ordinary, and to the Standing Committee or Council of Advice.

(c). The candidate shall also be required to furnish evidence that she has had at least nine months of field work under competent supervision, or satisfactory previous experience in social service, educational, or Congregation work.

Sec. 5. No one shall be admitted a Deaconess until she is twenty-five years of age; nor within two years of her reception as a candidate, unless the Bishop Ordinary, with the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, shall shorten the time of her candidateship; but the time shall not be shortened to less than one year.

Sec. 6. When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the woman desires to be canonically attached has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Clerical members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice shall, through their President, discharge the duties assigned in Sections 2 (b) (6), 3 (b), 3 (c), 4 (b), 5, and 7 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 7. When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the woman is canonically attached has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Presiding Bishop or a Bishop appointed by him, shall discharge the duties assigned in Section 9 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary and the duties of suspension or removal assigned in Section 11 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 8: When not connected with a Congregation, the Deaconess shall be under the direct oversight of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which she is canonically attached. Each Deaconess shall report annually to the Ecclesiastical Authority of her Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the form prescribed by the Ecclesiastical Authority. A Deaconess may be transferred from one Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to another by Letters Dimissory. A Deaconess may at any time resign her office by sending her resignation in writing to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which she is attached under this Canon, but she may not be suspended or removed from office except by the Bishop Ordinary for cause. Deaconesses shall be amenable to the Clergy Discipline measure outlined under Title V of these Canons.

Sec. 9: When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the woman desires to be canonically attached has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Clerical members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice shall, through their President, discharge the duties assigned in Sections 2 (b) (6), 3 (b), 3 (c), 4 (b), <u>and</u> 5, and 7 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 10: When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the woman is canonically attached has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is

under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Presiding Bishop or a Bishop appointed by him, shall discharge the duties assigned in Section 6 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary and the duties of suspension or removal assigned in Section 8 of this Canon to the Bishop Ordinary.

CANON 54 - Of Religious Societies.

Sec. 1. A Religious Society of men or of women desiring the official recognition of the Church shall submit its Constitution and Bylaws to the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction wherein the motherhouse of the Community is situated; and upon the granting of official recognition in accordance with Canon 13, no change in the Constitution and Bylaws shall be made without his approval.

Sec. 2. In such Constitution, there shall be a distinct recognition of the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church as of supreme authority.

Sec. 3. No Religious Society shall establish itself in another Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction without permission of the Bishop Ordinary thereof.

Sec. 4. The Society may elect a Chaplain who shall be in charge of the Chapel, but without tenure; but if he be a Priest who is not canonically resident in the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, he must be licensed by the Bishop Ordinary. Any Priest ministering in a Chapel of a Religious Society shall be responsible to the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction for his ministrations, in the same manner as a parochial Clergyman.

Sec. 5. In the administration of the Sacraments the Book of Common Prayer shall be used without alteration, save as it may be lawfully permitted by lawful authority.

Sec. 6. Members of a Religious Society who are in Holy Orders shall be subject to all canonical regulations concerning the Clergy.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the Bishop Ordinary to see that the Constitution and Bylaws, as approved, are duly observed, and to receive and hear appeals either from the Society or from individual members thereof as to transgressions of the Society. No full member of a Society shall be dismissed therefrom without appeal to the Bishop Ordinary, nor shall any be released from his or her obligations thereto without the sanction of the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 8. When the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which the headquarters is situated has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Presiding Bishop or a Bishop appointed by him, shall discharge the duties of this Canon assigned to the Bishop Ordinary.

TITLE V.

ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE.

CANON 55 - Of Offenses for which Bishops, Presbyters and Deacons May Be Tried.

A Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon of this Church shall be liable to presentment and trial for the following offenses, viz.:

(1). Crime or immorality.

(2). Holding and teaching publicly or privately and advisedly, any doctrine contrary to that held by this Church.

(3). Violation of the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.

(4). Violation of the Constitution or Canons of the General Convention.

(5). Violation of the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District to which he belongs.

(6). Any act which involves a violation of his Ordination vows.

(7). Habitual neglect of the exercise of his Ministerial Office, without cause; or habitual neglect of Public Worship, and of the Holy Communion, according to the order and use of this Church.

(8). Conduct unbecoming a Clergyman.

CANON 56 - Of Amenability, Citation, and Attendance.

Sec. 1. Bishops, Presbyters, and Deacons are amenable for offenses committed by them; a Bishop to the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop, and a Presbyter or Deacon to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or the Missionary District in which he is canonically resident at the time the charge is made.

Sec. 2. A notice or citation required by any law of this Church to any Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon to appear, at a certain time and place for the trial of an offense, shall be in writing and shall be deemed to be duly served upon him if a copy thereof be given him personally or be left at his last usual place of abode within North America, sixty days before the day of appearance named therein; and in case such Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon has departed from North America, if a copy of such notice or citation be also published once a week for six successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the Diocese or Missionary District in which the Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon is cited to appear as the Ecclesiastical Authority shall designate, the last publication to be six months before the said day of appearance. Acceptance of service will render unnecessary any further process of citation.

Sec. 3. It is hereby declared to be the duty of all members of this Church, when duly cited, to attend and give evidence in any Ecclesiastical trial under the authority of this Church and in any investigation pertaining to any such Ecclesiastical trial, whether actual or prospective.

CANON 57 - Of General Procedures.

Sec. 1. For purposes of the Canons of Ecclesiastical Discipline, unless expressly stated otherwise, if there be no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop

Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Presiding Bishop or a Bishop appointed by him, shall discharge the duties assigned to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 2. For purposes of the Canons of Ecclesiastical Discipline, a Presbyter or Deacon under the Ecclesiastical jurisdiction of a Bishop in Charge shall be deemed to have canonical residence in the Diocese or Missionary District of the Bishop in Charge.

Sec. 3. A written notice or citation required by any Canon of Ecclesiastical Discipline of this Church, when no other mode of service is provided, may be served personally, or by registered or certified mail, addressed to the person to be served, at his last known place of residence, or by leaving a copy at his last usual place of abode within North America.

Sec. 4. In the conduct of investigations preliminary to presentments, as well as in all trials, the laws of the civil jurisdiction in which such investigation or trial is had so far as they relate to evidence, shall be adopted and taken as the rules by which said investigations and trials shall be governed, and trials shall be conducted according to the principles of the common law as the same is generally administered in the United States except in those Dioceses and Missionary Districts where Ecclesiastical Courts are provided for by Civil Constitution or Statute, in which case the same shall govern.

Sec. 5. In the case of a Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon finally convicted in a Civil Court of Record of any crime or misdemeanor involving immorality, or against whom a final judgment has been entered in a Civil Court of Record in a case involving immorality, it shall be the duty of the Presiding Bishop, in the case of a Bishop, and in the case of a Presbyter or Deacon, of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or of the Council of Advice of the Missionary District in which he is canonically resident, to institute an inquiry into the matter. If in the judgment of either, there is sufficient reason for further proceedings, it shall be their duty to present him, or to cause that he be presented, for trial.

Sec. 6. No presentment shall be made, or conviction had for any offense, unless the offense shall have been committed within five years immediately preceding the time of the presentment, except that in a case of a final conviction in a Civil Court of Record exercising criminal jurisdiction as aforesaid, a presentment may be made at any time within one year after such conviction notwithstanding five years may have elapsed since the commission of the offense.

Sec. 7. The several Ecclesiastical Courts may adopt rules of procedure not inconsistent with the Constitution or Canons of this Church, with power to alter or rescind the same from time to time.

Sec. 8. The several Ecclesiastical Courts shall appoint Clerks, and if necessary, Assistant Clerks, who shall be Presbyters of this Church to serve at the pleasure of the Court.

Sec. 9. The several Ecclesiastical Courts may appoint not less than two nor more than three lay communicants of this Church learned in the law, as Assessors. They shall have no vote. It shall be their duty to give the Ecclesiastical Court an opinion on any question, not theological, upon which the Ecclesiastical Court or any member thereof, or either party, shall desire an opinion. If a question shall arise as to whether any question is theological, it shall be decided by the Ecclesiastical Court by a majority of the votes.

Sec. 10. The several Ecclesiastical Courts shall keep a record of all their proceedings.

Sec. 11 (a). The several Ecclesiastical Courts shall permit the parties to be heard in person or by counsel of their own selection, but the Court may regulate the number of counsels who may address the Court.

(b). In every trial of a Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon, the Ecclesiastical Trial Court may regulate the number of counsels who may examine witnesses, the number of witnesses to be examined, and the scope of the testimony.

Sec. 12 (a). The President, or any other member an Ecclesiastical Trial Court, shall upon application of either party issue subpoenas for witnesses, but before doing so the person who issues the same shall first be satisfied that the testimony sought to be adduced is material and that the witness is one whom the Court would be willing to hear upon the trial, otherwise he may refuse to issue the same.

(b) In any Diocese or Missionary District in which the Civil Government shall have authorized the Ecclesiastical Courts therein to issue subpoenas for witnesses or to administer an oath, the Ecclesiastical Trial Court shall act in conformity to such law.

Sec. 13 (a). If in the course of a trial it becomes necessary to take the testimony of absent witnesses, it may be taken upon a commission as such commissions are authorized by the common law in the civil jurisdiction in which the trial takes place, and in case there is ground to suppose that the attendance of a witness at the forthcoming trial cannot be obtained, it shall be lawful for either party to apply to the Ecclesiastical Trial Court, if in session, or if not, to any member thereof, who shall thereupon appoint a Commissioner to take the deposition of such witness; and such party desiring to take such depositions shall give the opposite party reasonable written notice of the time and place of taking depositions, accompanying such notice with the interrogatories to be propounded to the witness, whereupon it shall be lawful for the other party within six days after such notice to propound cross-interrogatories, and such interrogatories and cross-interrogatories, if any be propounded, shall be served on the Commissioner, who shall thereupon proceed to take the testimony of such witness and transmit it under seal to the Court. Such testimony shall be preceded by a declaration of the witness similar to that of a witness testifying in person before the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop.

(b) No deposition shall be taken or read at trial unless the Ecclesiastical Trial Court shall deem such testimony to be material and also have reasonable assurance that the attendance of the witness cannot be procured, and the several Ecclesiastical Trial Courts shall have power to limit the scope of the testimony taken by deposition and the number of witnesses whose depositions shall be taken.

(c) No deposition shall be read or otherwise used at trial unless the deponent shall have subscribed his or her name at the end thereof, unless prevented from doing so by serious intervening circumstance.

Sec. 14. No determination or judgement of any Ecclesiastical Court shall be disturbed for technical errors not going to the merits of the cause.

CANON 58 - Of the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon.

Sec. 1. In each Diocese and Missionary District there shall be an Ecclesiastical Trial Court and it shall be the duty of each Diocese and Missionary District to provide by Canon for the

establishment of such Court and the filling of vacancies occurring in such Court

Sec. 2. Each Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon is vested with jurisdiction to hear and determine the trials of Presbyters and Deacons canonically resident in the Diocese or Missionary District in and for which such Court is established.

Sec. 3. No person shall sit as a member of any Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon who is a presenter of charges or who is related to the accused or to the presenter of charges by affinity or consanguinity in a direct ascending or descending line, or as a brother, uncle, nephew or first cousin; nor shall any Bishop, Presbyter, or Layman who for any other reason upon objection made by either party is deemed by the other members of such Court to be disqualified shall sit as a member of the Court.

Sec. 4 (a). All of the provisions of the Canons herein and of the Dioceses and Missionary Districts relating to persons originally appointed as members of the Ecclesiastical Trial Courts for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon, shall apply to those persons appointed in succession to the persons originally appointed, and all proceedings which may have been taken on any cause pending at or prior to such appointment, shall have the same force and effect as if the appointee had been a member of the Court when such cause was commenced, and such appointee may participate in the continuing hearing and determination of the said cause.

(b) If the term for which a member of an Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon was chosen shall have expired during the course of a trial, said member shall notwithstanding be competent to act in the cause until the termination of the trial.

Sec. 5. The procedure in Ecclesiastical Trial Courts for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon shall be as provided by the Canons, not inconsistent with the Constitution or Canons of this Church, of the respective Dioceses or Missionary Districts.

Sec. 6 (a). The presentment of a Presbyter or Deacon shall be in accordance with the mode, not inconsistent with the Constitution or Canons of this Church, provided by the Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District wherein the accused is canonically resident.

(b). In the case of a Presbyter or Deacon charged with the offense of Conduct unbecoming a Clergyman, before proceeding to a presentment, the consent of three-fourths of all the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the Diocese or Missionary District in which the Presbyter or Deacon is canonically resident, shall be required.

Sec. 7. The Bishop Ordinary of the jurisdiction within which a trial was held shall cause to be served on the accused written notice of the decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court in the jurisdiction. When the jurisdiction has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Standing Committee or Council of Advice acting through their President, shall discharge the duties assigned in this Sec. 7 to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 8. In case of conviction by the Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon, the Bishop Ordinary shall not proceed to sentence the accused before the expiration of thirty days after he shall have been served with the written notice of the decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court specified in Sec. 7 of this Canon, nor in case an appeal is taken shall sentence be pronounced pending the hearing and determination thereof.

Sec. 9. Upon a Presbyter or Deacon being found guilty, such Presbyter or Deacon shall be admonished, or shall be suspended or deposed from the Sacred Ministry, as shall be adjudged by the Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon, except as provided in Canon 66, Sec. 3.

CANON 59 - Of the Review of the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon.

Sec. 1 (a). For each appeal, the Bishops of the House of Bishops entitled to vote, excepting Foreign Missionary Bishops, Bishops who have resigned their jurisdictions, and all Bishops having jurisdiction in the Diocese or Missionary District of which the accused is canonically resident, shall constitute an Ecclesiastical Court of Review.

(b). The Presiding Bishop, unless he be a Bishop having jurisdiction in the Diocese or Missionary District of which the accused is canonically resident, shall be the President of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review and its Presiding Officer.

Sec. 2. In case the Presiding Bishop shall be a Bishop having jurisdiction in the Diocese or Missionary District of which the accused is canonically resident, his duties under this Canon shall be performed by the bishop who, according to the Rules of the House of Bishops, becomes its Presiding Officer, or, if there be no such Rules, the Bishop having jurisdiction in North America who is senior in order of Consecration,

Sec. 3. Each Ecclesiastical Court of Review is vested with jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal from the decision of an Ecclesiastical Trial Court in a Diocese or Missionary District, on the trial of a Presbyter or Deacon.

Sec. 4 (a). All of the provisions of the Canons relating to Bishops originally members of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review shall apply to those Bishops who become members such Court by accession to the House of Bishops, and all proceedings which may have been taken on any appeal pending but unheard at or prior to their becoming members, shall have the same force and effect as if they had been members of such Court when the appeal was commenced, and such new members may participate in the hearing and determination of the said appeal.

(b). Any member of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review who, during the pendency of any appeal, resigns his jurisdiction pursuant to Canon 45, Sec. 7 (a), shall notwithstanding be competent to act in the cause until the termination of the appeal.

Sec. 5 (a). An appeal to the Ecclesiastical Court of Review may be taken by the accused from a decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon which sustains in whole or in part a charge of any canonical offense. Such appeal may be taken by the accused within thirty days after service of the written notice provided in accordance with Canon 58, Sec, 7, by serving a written Notice of Appeal on the Bishop Ordinary or Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court and a duplicate on the Presiding Bishop. Such Notice of Appeal shall be subscribed by the accused and shall briefly set forth the decision from which the appeal is taken and the grounds of the appeal. Service of the Notice of Appeal shall be made in accordance with Canon 57, Sec. 3.

(b). An appeal to the Ecclesiastical Court of Review may be taken by the Bishop Ordinary or the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of the Missionary District within which a trial was had, from a decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court in such Diocese or

Missionary District acquitting the accused of a charge involving a question of doctrine, faith, or worship; Provided, however, that such appeal shall be on the question of the Church's doctrine, faith or worship only, and that the decision shall not be held to reverse the acquittal of the accused on charges other than these. But such an appeal by the Standing Committee or Council of Advice can be taken only when there is no Bishop in the Diocese or Missionary District who is able to act. An appeal by the Bishop Ordinary or Standing Committee or Council of Advice may be taken by service of a written Notice of Appeal upon the accused and a duplicate upon the Presiding Bishop within thirty days after the decision from which the appeal is taken. Such Notice of Appeal shall be subscribed by the appellant and shall briefly set forth the decision from which the appeal is taken and the grounds of the appeal. Service of the Notice of Appeal shall be made in accordance with Canon 57, Sec. 3.

Sec. 6. An appeal shall be heard upon the record of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon. When an appeal shall have been taken, the Bishop Ordinary, within thirty days after receiving the Notice of Appeal, shall transmit to the President of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review and to the accused, a full and correct transcript of the record, proceedings, and decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court, including all the evidence taken upon the trial, duly certified by the President or Clerk of such Court. Except for the purpose of correcting the record, if defective, no new evidence shall be taken by the Ecclesiastical Court of Review. When the jurisdiction has no Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop Ordinary is under disability, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, if there be none, the Suffragan Bishop senior in order of Consecration, or, if there be none, the Standing Committee or Council of Advice shall, through their President, discharge the duties assigned in this Sec. 6 to the Bishop Ordinary.

Sec. 6. The President of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review, within ninety days after the record shall have been received by him, shall appoint a time and place for hearing the appeal. At least thirty days prior to the day appointed, written notice of such time and place shall be given by him to the other members of the Court, and also to the accused, and to the Bishop Ordinary and Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District in which the trial was had.

Sec. 7. Three members of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review, of whom the President of the Court shall be one, shall constitute a quorum, but the members present, if less than a quorum, may adjourn the Court from time to time, until the attendance of a quorum shall be secured.

Sec. 8. At the time and place appointed, the Ecclesiastical Court of Review shall assemble and, a quorum being present, proceed to hear the appeal.

Sec. 9 (a). The Ecclesiastical Court of Review may reverse or affirm, in whole or in part, the decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court from which the appeal has been taken, or, if in its opinion, justice shall so require, it may grant a new trial. If after having been duly notified, the appellant fails to appear, and no sufficient excuse be shown, the Court, in its discretion, may dismiss the appeal for want of prosecution, or may proceed to hear and determine the appeal in the absence of the appellant.

(b). The concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review present during the hearing shall be necessary to pronounce a judgment. The judgment or decision of the Court shall be in writing, signed by the members of the Court uniting therein, and shall distinctly specify the grounds of the decision, and shall be attached to the record. If the concurrence of

two-thirds of the members cannot be obtained as provided, that fact shall be stated in the record, and the decision of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court shall stand as affirmed. Immediately after the determination of the appeal, the President of the Court shall give notice thereof in writing to the accused, and to the Bishop Ordinary and the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District in which the trial was had. Upon the determination of the appeal, the original record upon which the appeal was heard, together with the record of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review, certified by the President and the Secretary or Clerk, shall be remitted to the Bishop Ordinary or the Standing Committee of the jurisdiction in which the trial was had. All records remitted as herein provided shall be deposited and preserved among the archives of the jurisdiction to which they are sent.

Sec. 10. The Ecclesiastical Court of Review shall not pronounce sentence on the affirmation of a conviction. When the appeal is so determined, upon receipt of the record by the Bishop Ordinary or Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court, the accused shall be sentenced in accordance with Canon 66, the provisions of which shall be complied with.

Sec.11. The necessary charges and expenses of the Ecclesiastical Court of Review, including the necessary expenses of the Assessors, shall be charges upon the Diocese or the Missionary District, as the case may be. They shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Diocese or of the Missionary District, upon the order of the President of the Court.

CANON 60 - Of the Trial of a Bishop.

Sec. 1 (a). The Bishops of the House of Bishops entitled to vote, excepting Foreign Missionary Bishops and Bishops who have resigned their jurisdictions, shall constitute an Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop. The accused Bishop shall not be disqualified from membership on the Court because he is the accused, nor shall the bishops who are presenters of charges be disqualified from membership on the Court because they are presenters of charges.

(b). The Presiding Bishop, unless he is the accused Bishop or a presenter of charges, shall be the President of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop and its Presiding Officer.

Sec. 2. In case the Presiding Bishop shall be either a presenter of charges or the accused, his duties under this Canon shall be performed by the bishop who, according to the Rules of the House of Bishops, becomes its Presiding Officer, or, if there be no such Rules, the Bishop having jurisdiction in North America who is senior in order of Consecration,

Sec. 3. The Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop is vested with jurisdiction to try a Bishop who is duly charged with any one or more of the offenses specified in Canon 55.

Sec. 4 (a). All of the provisions of the Canons relating to Bishops originally members of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop shall apply to those Bishops who become new members of such Court by accession to the House of Bishops, and all proceedings which may have been taken on any trial pending but unheard at or prior to their becoming members, shall have the same force and effect as if the new members had been members of such Court when said trial was commenced, and such new members may participate in the hearing and determination of the said trial.

(b) Any member of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop who, during the pendency

of any cause, resigns his jurisdiction pursuant to Canon 45, Sec. 7 (a), shall notwithstanding be competent to act in the cause until the termination of the trial.

Sec. 5 (a). A Bishop may be charged with any one or more of the offenses specified in Canon 55. Such charges shall be made in a presentment in writing, signed by and sworn to by all the presenters, and which shall be served upon the Presiding Bishop of the Church. The grounds of accusation must be set forth with reasonable certainty of time, place, and circumstance.

(b). A Bishop may be presented for any of the offences specified in Canon 55, other than that of holding and teaching doctrine contrary to that held by this Church, by two or more Bishops or by ten or more communicants of this Church in good standing of whom at least two shall be Presbyters; one Presbyter and not less than six communicants shall belong to the Diocese or Missionary District of the accused, or, in case the accused have no jurisdiction, to the Diocese or District in which he has domicile.

(c). A Bishop may be presented by any two Bishops of this Church having jurisdiction, for holding and teaching publicly or privately and advisedly, doctrine contrary to that held by this Church.

Sec. 6. In case any presentment shall be made to the Presiding Bishop as hereinbefore provided, he shall at once transmit the same to the President of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop and shall cause a true copy of the presentment to be served upon the accused Bishop, in the manner provided in Canon 56.

Sec. 7 (a). When the President of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop shall receive a presentment, he shall call the Court to meet at a certain time and place, said time not to be less than two nor more than six calendar months from the day of service of such notice, and at a place within the Diocese or Missionary District of the accused Bishop, unless the same be of such difficult access, in the judgment of the President of the Court, that reasonable convenience requires the appointment of another place; and in case the accused have no jurisdiction, at a place within the Diocese or Missionary District in which he has his domicile. With said notice, he shall send to each member of the Court a copy of the presentment.

(b). The President of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop shall also summon the accused to appear at the same time and place to answer the said presentment.

Sec. 8. A majority of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop shall constitute a quorum, but the members present, if less than a quorum, may adjourn the Court from time to time, until the attendance of a quorum shall be secured.

Sec. 9. Where a presentment of a Bishop is made, the presenters of charges shall be considered the party on one side and the accused the party on the other.

Sec. 10 (a). At the time and place appointed, a quorum of the Court being present, the President shall declare the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop open for hearing the case; and when thus open, he shall direct the Clerk to call the names of the parties; and if all appear, he shall then cause the Clerk to read the presentment.

(b). The accused shall then be called upon by the Court to plead to the presentment and his pleas shall be duly recorded; and on his neglect or refusal to plead, the plea of not guilty shall be entered for him and the trial shall proceed; Provided, that for sufficient cause the Court may

adjourn from time to time; and Provided, also, that the accused shall, at all times during the trial, have liberty to be present, and in due time and order to produce his testimony and to make his defense,

(c). If the accused fail or refuse to appear in person, according to the notice served on him as aforesaid, except for reasonable cause to be allowed by the Court, it shall pronounce him in contumacy, and give him notice that sentence of suspension or deposition will be pronounced against him by the Court at the expiration of three months, unless at that time he shall appear and take his trial upon the presentment. If he does not so tender himself for trial, sentence of suspension, or of deposition from the Ministry may be pronounced upon him by the Court.

Sec. 11. The accused being present and the trial proceeding, it shall be conducted in accordance with Canon 55. The accused shall in all cases have the right to be a witness on his own behalf, subject to cross-examination in the same manner as any other witness. No testimony shall be received at the trial, except from witnesses who have signed a declaration in the following words, to be read aloud before the witness testifies and to be filed with the records of the Court.

> "I, A. B., a witness on the trial of a presentment against the Right Reverend A.B., a Bishop of the United Episcopal Church of North America, now pending, do most solemnly call God to witness that the evidence I am about to give shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God."

Sec. 12. During the trial, exceptions in writing may be taken by either side to the admission or exclusion of evidence, or to any ruling of the Court, and such exceptions shall form part of the record of the case.

Sec. 13. The Court, having fully heard the allegations and proofs of the parties, and having deliberately considered the same after the parties have withdrawn, every member of the Court sitting in the cause shall declare whether in his opinion the accused is guilty or not guilty, and with respect to each particular charge and specification contained in the presentment. The accused shall be deemed not guilty upon every charge and specification in respect of holding and teaching publicly or privately and advisedly any doctrine contrary to that held by this Church, upon which he shall not be pronounced guilty by at least two-thirds of the members of the Court sitting in the cause. The accused shall be deemed not guilty upon every other charge and specification upon which he shall not be pronounced guilty by a majority of the members of the Court sitting in the cause.

Sec. 14. The decision of the Court as to all the charges and specifications shall be reduced to writing, and signed by those who assent to it, and the Court shall also, if the accused is found guilty of any charge or specification, determine and embody in the written decision the penalty which it shall adjudge should be imposed upon the accused, which penalty may be admonition or suspension or deposition from the Ministry, as shall be by the Court adjudged; and the decision so signed shall be recorded as the judgement of the Court, and shall be judgment nisi until it becomes final as hereinafter stated. A certified copy of the judgment shall be promptly served upon the accused Bishop.

Sec. 15. A Bishop found guilty upon a presentment for crime or immorality shall not, after the rendering of such judgment, and while the same continues unreversed, perform any Episcopal or Ministerial functions, except such as relate to the administration of the temporal affairs of his

Diocese or Missionary District.

Sec. 16 (a). If the accused shall be found guilty of any charge or specification, he may file a motion for a new trial, a motion for a modification of penalty, or both such motions. Any such motion or motions shall be filed within sixty days from the date of the filing of the decision, and the motion shall set forth all the reasons therefor, and no other shall be relied on at the hearing of the motion without the consent of the Court. The President of the Court shall set a place and time for hearing the motion and shall serve written notice upon the parties and the members of the Court of such time and place. At the appointed time and place he shall reconvene the Court to hear and determine the motion.

(b). The Court may in the interest of justice grant a new trial or modify the penalty. If a motion for a new trial is granted, the President of the Court shall set a time and place for the new trial and serve written notice upon the parties and the members of the Court of such time and place. If the motion for a new trial is denied, the judgment nisi as to the guilt of the accused shall become final; but the Court in the exercise of its discretion may modify or change the penalty and shall in writing signed by a majority of the Court direct what penalty is to be incorporated in the final judgment to be recorded by the Clerk. If no motion for a new trial or for modification of sentence shall be filed within the time limited for filing such motions, the Clerk of the Court shall on the next secular day enter, as final, the judgment rendered by the Court.

Sec. 17. After the entry of final judgment, the President of the Court shall appoint a time and place not less than sixty days thereafter for pronouncing sentence. At the time and place appointed, the President of the Court or a member thereof designated in writing by a majority of the members thereof to do so, shall in the presence of the accused, if he shall see fit to attend, pronounce the sentence which has been adjudged by the Court, and direct the same to be recorded by the Clerk.

Sec 18. The record of the case shall be kept by the Clerk and inserted in a book to be attested by the signature of the President and Clerk. The record shall be in the custody of the Clerk and kept in the depositary of the Registrar of the General Convention and shall be open to the inspection of every member of this Church.

Sec. 19. The necessary charges and expenses of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop, including the necessary expenses of the Assessors, shall be charges upon the General Convention. They shall be paid by the Treasurer of the General Convention upon the order of the President of the Court.

CANON 61 - Of a Presbyter or Deacon in any Jurisdiction Chargeable with Offense in Another.

Sec. 1. If a Presbyter or Deacon having canonical residence in any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction shall have conducted himself in any other Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in such a way as to be liable to presentment under the provisions of Canon 55, the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof shall give notice of the same to the Ecclesiastical Authority where he is canonically resident, exhibiting, with the information given, reasonable ground for presuming its truth. If the Ecclesiastical Authority, after due notice given, shall omit, for the space of three months, to proceed against the offending Presbyter or Deacon, or shall request the Ecclesiastical Authority

of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed, to proceed against him, it shall be within the power of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction within which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed, to institute proceedings according to the mode provided by the Diocese or Missionary District under the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Authority instituting the proceedings.

Sec. 2. If a Presbyter or Deacon shall come temporarily into any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction under the imputation of having elsewhere been guilty of any of the offences within the provisions of Canon 55, or if any Presbyter or Deacon, while sojourning in any Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction shall so offend, the Bishop Ordinary, upon probable cause, may admonish such Presbyter or Deacon and inhibit him from officiating in said Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction. And if, after such inhibition, the said Presbyter or Deacon so officiate, the Bishop Ordinary shall give notice to all Clergymen and Congregations in his jurisdiction, that the officiating of the said Presbyter or Deacon is inhibited; and like notice shall be given to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction to which the said Presbyter or Deacon belongs, and to the Recorder. And such inhibition shall continue in force until the bishop giving such notice be satisfied of the innocence of the said Presbyter or Deacon, or until he be acquitted on trial.

Sec. 3. The provisions of the last Section shall apply to Presbyters and Deacons ordained in foreign lands by Bishops in communion with this Church; but in such case notice of the inhibition shall be given to the bishop from whose jurisdiction the Presbyter or Deacon shall appear to have come, and also to all the bishops exercising jurisdiction in this Church, and to the Recorder.

CANON 62 - Of Renunciation of the Ministry.

Sec. 1. If any Presbyter or Deacon of this Church not under presentment shall declare, in writing, to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he is canonically resident, his renunciation of the Ministry of this Church, and his desire to be removed therefrom, it shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority to record the declaration and request so made. The Bishop Ordinary, being satisfied that the person so declaring is not amenable for any canonical offense, and that his renunciation of the Ministry is not occasioned by foregoing misconduct or irregularity, but is voluntary and for causes, assigned or known, which do not affect his moral character, shall defer formal action upon the declaration for three months, and meanwhile shall lay the matter before the Clerical members of the Standing Committee or of the Council of Advice, and with their advice and consent he may pronounce that such renunciation is accepted, and that the Presbyter or Deacon is released from the obligations of the Ministerial office, and that he is deprived of the right to exercise the gifts and spiritual authority as a Minister of God's Word and Sacraments conferred on him in his Ordination. He shall also declare in pronouncing and recording such action that it was for causes which do not affect the man's moral character, and shall, if desired, give a certificate to this effect to the person so removed from the Ministry. In all other cases of Renunciation of the Ministry, where there may be a question of foregoing misconduct or irregularity, the Bishop Ordinary shall not pronounce sentence of Deposition save with the

consent of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of the Missionary District. The Bishop Ordinary shall give due notice of every such Removal or Deposition from the Ministry, in the form in which the same is recorded, and in accordance with the provisions of Canon 66, Sec. 3 (b).

Sec. 2. If a Presbyter or Deacon making the aforesaid declaration of renunciation of his Ministry be under presentment for any canonical offense, or if he shall have been placed on trial for the same, the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such declaration is made, shall not consider or act upon such declaration until after the said presentment shall have been dismissed, or the said trial shall have been concluded and sentence, if any, pronounced. If the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such declaration is made shall have ground to suppose that the person making the same is liable to presentment for any canonical offense, such person may, in the discretion of the said Ecclesiastical Authority, be placed upon trial for such offense, notwithstanding such declaration of renunciation of the Ministry.

CANON 63 - Of the Abandonment of the Communion of this Church by a Bishop.

Sec. 1. If a Bishop abandon the communion of this Church, either by an open renunciation of the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of the Church, or by formal admission into any

religious body not in communion with the same, or in any other manner, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of the Missionary District of said Bishop to certify the fact to the Presiding Bishop, and with such certificate to send a statement of the acts or declarations which show such abandonment, which certificate and statement shall be recorded by the Presiding Bishop. The Presiding Bishop, with the consent of the two Bishops having jurisdiction in North America who are senior in order of consecration, shall then suspend the said Bishop from the exercise of his Office and Ministry until such time as the House of Bishops shall investigate the matter.

Sec. 2. The Presiding Bishop shall forthwith give notice to the said Bishop of such suspension, and that unless he shall, within six months, make declaration that the facts alleged in said certificate are false, and shall demand a trial, he will be liable to deposition from the Ministry. And if such declaration be not made within six months, as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Presiding Bishop to convene the House of Bishops to consider the case; and if the said House, by a majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote, shall give their consent, the Presiding Bishop shall depose the said Bishop from the Ministry, and pronounce and record in the presence of two or more Bishops, that he has been so deposed.

CANON 64 - Of the Abandonment of the Communion of this Church by a Presbyter or Deacon.

Sec. 1. If any Presbyter or Deacon shall, without availing himself of the provisions of Canon 62, abandon the communion of this Church, by an open renunciation of the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church, or by a formal admission into any religious body not in communion with the same, or in any other way, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of the Missionary District in which the said Presbyter or Deacon is canonically resident to certify the fact to the Bishop Ordinary and with such certificate to send a statement of the acts or declarations which show such abandonment; which certificate and statement shall be recorded, and shall be taken and deemed by the Ecclesiastical Authority as an

equivalent to a renunciation of the Ministry by the Presbyter or Deacon himself; and the said Bishop shall then suspend the said Presbyter or Deacon for six months. Notice shall then be given by the said Bishop Ordinary to the Presbyter or Deacon so suspended that, unless he shall within six months transmit to the Bishop Ordinary a retraction of such acts or make declaration that the facts alleged in said certificate are false, he will be deposed from the Ministry.

Sec. 2. If such retraction or declaration be not made within six months, as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Bishop Ordinary to depose the said Presbyter or Deacon from the Ministry, and to pronounce and record, in the presence of two or more Presbyters, that he has been so deposed.

CANON 65 - Of a Presbyter or Deacon Absenting Himself, or Abandoning the Work of the Ministry.

Sec. 1. If a Presbyter or Deacon shall have been absent for more than two years from the Diocese or Missionary District in which he has canonical residence, or from the other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he has actual canonical residence (vis-a-vis that imputed by Canon 57, Sec. 2), without having given reasons satisfactory to the Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop in Charge thereof; or if he shall engage in any secular calling or business without the consent of such Bishop and shall refuse to engage in the work of the Ministry at the call of such Bishop, coupled with reasonable provision for his support; it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of the Missionary District, or of any two Presbyters of the Diocese or Missionary District, the case being brought to their attention by the written statement of the Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop in Charge, to present the offending Presbyter or Deacon for trial.

Sec. 2. Whenever a Presbyter or Deacon of this Church shall have been absent from the Diocese or Missionary District in which he has canonical residence or from another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which he has actual canonical residence (vis-a-vis that imputed by Canon 57, Sec. 2), for a period of more than two years, and has failed to make the annual report, so that his whereabouts are unknown, the Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop in Charge may send the name of such Presbyter or Deacon to the Secretary of the House of Bishops of the Church, who shall keep a list of such Presbyters and Deacons; but upon application of either the said Bishop or the Presbyter or Deacon himself, or at the discretion of the Presiding Bishop, he shall be reinstated. While the name of the Presbyter or Deacon remains upon the list of the Secretary of the House of Bishops he shall not be considered as canonically connected with the Diocese, Missionary District, or other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

CANON 66 - Of Sentences.

Sec. 1. Whenever the penalty of suspension shall be imposed on a Bishop, Presbyter or Deacon, in this Church, the sentence shall specify on what terms and on what conditions and at what time the penalty shall cease.

Sec. 2. Whenever a Clergyman is deposed from the Sacred Ministry, he is deposed therefrom entirely, and not from a higher to a lower Order in the same.

Sec. 3 (a). If a Presbyter or Deacon is liable to sentence upon conviction by an Ecclesiastical Trial Court or upon affirmance of such conviction by an Ecclesiastical Court of Review,

sentence shall be imposed by the Bishop Ordinary of the jurisdiction in which the original trial of the accused was had, and it shall be lawful for the Bishop Ordinary in his discretion to pronounce a lesser sentence than that adjudged by the Court. The Bishop Ordinary shall appoint a time and place for pronouncing such sentence and shall cause notice thereof in writing to be served upon the accused in the manner provided in Canon 56 at least thirty days before the time appointed.

(b). In the case of renunciation of the Ministry by a Presbyter or Deacon as provided in Canon 62, and in case of the abandonment of the communion of this Church by a Presbyter or Deacon as provided in Canon 64, sentence of Removal or Deposition shall be pronounced in the presence of two or more Presbyters and shall be entered in the official records of the jurisdiction in which the Presbyter or Deacon being removed or deposed is canonically resident. The bishop who pronounces sentence of Removal or Deposition as provided in Canon 62 or Canon 64 shall give notice thereof in writing to the Presiding Bishop, the Recorder, the Secretary of the House of Bishops, and the Secretary of the House of Deputies. In giving such notice the bishop who pronounces sentence of Removal or Deposition may request, for reason to be stated by him, that the sentence be held in confidence until the regular date of the next ensuing publication of the list or ordained clergy of this Church. Unless the Presiding Bishop shall disapprove in writing, within thirty days of the granting of the request that the sentence be held in confidence, those notified as above provided of the sentence of Removal or Deposition shall not publish or give notice of the same but shall record the sentence in confidence in the official records kept by each of those to whom notice is sent as above provided.

(c). If the sentence to be pronounced upon a Presbyter or Deacon be deposition, the bishop acting in the matter shall pronounce and record the same in the presence of two or more Presbyters.

(d). In case an accused Presbyter or Deacon confesses the truth of the charges made against him, and in writing waives the right to a trial and submits himself to disciplinary action, the Bishop Ordinary or the Bishop in Charge may in his discretion proceed at once to pronounce sentence.

(e). After a Presbyter or Deacon shall have been convicted by an Ecclesiastical Trial Court of an offense rendering him liable to canonical sentence, the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese or Missionary District where trial was had shall have the right to suspend him from all public ministrations. Such suspension shall continue until a final judgment upon the case.

(f). When the sentence imposed on a Presbyter or Deacon is one of Suspension or Deposition, the Bishop who pronounces the same shall without delay give notice thereof in writing to every Presbyter, Deacon, Vestry, and Vestry Committee in the Diocese or Missionary District in which the sentenced Presbyter or Deacon had canonical residence (and, in case the sentenced Presbyter or Deacon had actual canonical residence, vis-a-vis that imputed by Canon 57, Sec. 2, in another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, to every Presbyter, Deacon, Vestry, Vestry Committee, and Advisory Council in said place); to all the Bishops of the Church, and where there is no Bishop, to the Standing Committee of the Diocese or to the Council of Advice of the Missionary District as the case may be; to the Recorder, and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops, who shall deposit and preserve such notice among the archives of the House. The notice shall specify under what Canon the Presbyter or Deacon has been suspended or deposed.

Sec. 4. No sentence shall be pronounced until an opportunity shall have been given to the accused either on conviction or on confession to show cause, if any, why sentence should not be pronounced, and to offer any matter in excuse or palliation for the consideration of the bishop to

pronounce sentence.

Sec. 5. When a Bishop is liable to sentence under a judgment of the Ecclesiastical Court for the Trial of a Bishop, the sentence to be imposed, the bishop to pronounce the same, and the procedure to be followed in imposing sentence shall be as provided in the several Canons governing the procedure of said Court.

Sec. 6. In the case of the suspension or deposition of a Bishop it shall be the duty of the Presiding Bishop to give notice of the same to the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese and Missionary District of this Church and to the Recorder and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops and to the Secretary of the House of Deputies and to all Archbishops, Metropolitans, and Presiding Bishops of Churches in communion with this Church.

Sec. 7. A Bishop found guilty upon a presentment for an offense shall not, on the rendering of such judgment, and while the same continues unreversed, perform any Episcopal or Ministerial functions, except such as relate to the administration of the temporal affairs of his Diocese, Missionary District, or another place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

CANON 67 - Of the Remission or Modification of Judicial Sentences.

Sec. 1. The House of Bishops may remit and terminate any judicial sentence which may have been imposed upon a Bishop, or modify the same so far as to designate a precise period of time, or other specific contingency, on the occurrence of which such sentence shall utterly cease, and be of no further force or effect; Provided, that no such remission or modification shall be made except at a meeting of the House of Bishops, during the session of some General Convention, or at a special meeting of the said House, which shall be convened by the Presiding Bishop on his own volition or on the application of any two Bishops, three months' notice, in writing, of the time, place and object of the meeting being given to each Bishop; Provided, also that such remission or modification be assented to by not less than a majority of the whole number entitled at the time to seats in the House of Bishops; and Provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to repeal or alter the provisions of Canon 66.

Sec. 2. A Bishop Ordinary of this Church may, for reasons which he shall deem sufficient, remit, and terminate any sentence of deposition or removal pronounced in his jurisdiction upon a Presbyter or Deacon; but he shall exercise this power only upon the following conditions:

(1). That he shall act with the advice and consent of two-thirds of all the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice.

(2). That he shall submit his proposed action, with his reasons therefor, to the judgment of two of the Bishops Ordinary of this Church, whose Dioceses or Missionary Districts are nearest to his own, and shall receive in writing, from the said Bishops, their approval of the said remission, and their consent thereto.

(3). That before remitting such sentence, he shall require the person to be restored to the Ministry to subscribe to the declaration required in Article VIII. of the Constitution.

Sec. 3. In case such person was deposed for abandoning the communion of this Church, or, having been deposed by reason of his renunciation of the Ministry of this Church, or for other cause, he has also abandoned its communion, the Bishop Ordinary before granting such remission, shall be satisfied that such person has lived in lay communion with this Church for

three years next preceding his application for such remission.

Sec. 4. In case the person applying for such remission shall be domiciled beyond the Diocese or Missionary District in which he was deposed, the Bishop Ordinary, before granting such remission, shall be furnished with written evidence of the approval of such application by the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese or Missionary District, or by the Bishop in Charge of the other place under Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, in which such person is domiciled.

Sec. 5. Whenever a Bishop Ordinary shall remit and terminate any sentence of deposition, he shall, without delay, give due notice thereof under his own hand, sending said notice in a sealed envelope to the Presiding Bishop, the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese and Missionary District of this Church, to the Recorder, to the Secretary of the House of Bishops, and to the Secretary of the House of Deputies, giving, with the full name of the person restored, the date of the deposition and the Order of the Ministry to which he is restored.

VI.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL ECCLESIASTICAL RELATIONSHIPS.

CANON 68 - Of Agreements in Respect of Interdenominational Ecclesiastical Relationships.

The House of Bishops shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Deputies assembled in General Convention, to enter into agreements, conventions, compacts, and accords of full communion, partial communion, intercommunion, cooperation, or recognition, with other Bodies of Christians of the Anglican tradition or of other traditions. provided however, that prior to entering into any of the agreements as enumerated above, the National Council will be advised of the intent.

VII.

CANONICAL LEGISLATION.

CANON 69 - Of Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal.

Sec. 1. No new Canon shall be enacted, or existing Canon be amended or repealed, except by concurrent resolution of the two Houses of the General Convention. Such resolution may be introduced first in either House.

Sec. 2. Whenever a Canon which repealed another Canon, or part thereof, shall itself be repealed, such previous Canon or part thereof shall not thereby be revived or re-enacted, without express words to that effect.

Sec. 3. In all cases of future enactment, the same, if by way of amendment of an existing provision, shall be in substantially the following form: "Canon.... (Or Section ...., or Clause....of Section...., of Canon....) is hereby amended to read as follows: (here insert the new reading)." And in the event of insertion of a new Canon, or of a new Section, or Clause, in a Canon, or of the repeal of an existing Canon, or of a Section or Clause, the numbering of the Canons, or of

divisions of a Canon, which follow shall be changed accordingly.

Sec. 4 (a). The Secretary of the General Convention shall, at the close of each regular meeting of the General Convention, certify the changes, if any, made in the Canons, including a correction of the references made in any Canon to another, and publish them in the Journal.

(b). The Secretary of the General Convention shall, at the close of each regular meeting of the General Convention, certify in like manner the changes, if any, made in the Constitution, or proposed to be made therein under the provisions of Article XII. of the Constitution and publish them in the Journal.

Sec. 5. All Canons enacted and all amendments and repeals of Canons made, unless otherwise expressly ordered, shall take effect on the first day following the adjournment of the General Convention at which they were enacted or made.

Canon 70 - Of the Standard Text of the Canons

A committee consisting of the Presiding Bishop, the Chancellor, and the Vice-Chancellor shall from time to time review the standard text of the Canons, and make such corrections to grammar, spelling, and punctuation as shall be deemed necessary, provided that such amendments do not alter the meaning and intent of the Canons.

STANDARD FORMS

1. Testimonial for Postulancy

To the Right Reverend Bishop of

We, whose names are hereunder written, testify to our belief (based on personal knowledge or on evidence satisfactory to us) that A. B. is sober, honest, and godly, and that he is a communicant of this Church in good standing. We do furthermore declare that, in our opinion, he possesses such qualifications as fit him to be admitted a Postulant for Holy Orders.

(Signed)

2. Letters Testimonial - The Diaconate

To the Standing Committee (or Council of Advice) of Place, Date,

I hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with A. B., and that I believe him to be well qualified to minister in the Office of Deacon, to the glory of God and the edification of His Church.

(Signed)

A certificate from the Clergyman in charge and the Vestry or Vestry Committee of the Congregation of which he is a member, in the following words, viz.:

To the Standing Committee (or Council of Advice) of Place, Date,

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that A. B., for the space of three years last past, hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and that he is loyal to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and does not hold anything contrary thereto. And, moreover, we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Deacons.

(Signed)

This certificate must be attested by the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation, or by the Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry or Vestry Committee, as follows, viz.:

I hereby certify that A. B. is a member of Parish (or Mission or Chapel) in and a of the same; that the foregoing certificate was meeting of the Vestry (or Vestry Committee) duly and that the names all (or a majority of all) the members of Vestry Committee).

(Signed)

The Rector (or Clergyman in charge) of or Clerk or Secretary of Vestry (or Vestry Committee).

3. Letters Testimonial - The Presbyterate

From the Vestry of the Church to which the deacon has been assigned:

To the Standing Committee (or Council of Advice) of Place, Date,

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that the Reverend A. B., Deacon, since the day of in the year being the date of his ordination to the Diaconate (or for the space of three years last past), hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and hath not written, taught, or held anything contrary to the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church. And, moreover, we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Priests.

(Signed)

This certificate must be attested by the Clergyman in charge of the Congregation, or by the Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry or Vestry Committee, as follows, viz.:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B. is a resident of Parish (or Mission or Chapel) in that the foregoing certificate was signed at a meeting of the Vestry (or Vestry Committee) duly convened at on the day of, and the names attached are those of all (or a majority of all) the members of the Vestry (or Vestry Committee).

(Signed)

The Rector (or Clergyman in charge) of

or Clerk or Secretary of Vestry (or Vestry Committee).

4. The Form of "Si Quis" to be used before Ordinations.

To read not more than six weeks, and not less than twenty-one days before the date proposed for the Ordination in the congregation where the Candidate is a member, or where he is serving as

deacon, during divine service at the accustomed place for notices:

Whereas <*insert name of candidate*>, a member of this congregation has applied to the Bishop of the (Missionary) Diocese of <*insert name of diocese*> to be admitted to the Holy Order of deacon/priest, and the Bishop has appointed <*insert date*> for that purpose. This is to give notice that if you, or any of you, know if any just cause why the said person should not be ordained, you are to declare it now, or to the Rector (Priest-in-Charge) of this parish, or the bishop of the said diocese not less than fourteen days before the day fixed for the ordination.

Certificate that the Si Quis has been read:

We do hereby certify that the above notice has been publicly and audibly read during divine service in the Parish/Mission of <insert name> in the (Missionary) Diocese of <name of diocese> on Sunday, <insert date>, and that no impediment was alleged.

Signed,

_____ Rector, or Priest-in-Charge

_____ Churchwarden